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Poetry.

SATISFIED.

I would not care to live the span
Of slender years my life contains,
The narrow limit hedged to man,
The sovereign will of God ordains,
Could I not feel the soothing breath,
That tells me to my inmost core,
And softly whispers "after death,
No sorrows come—no eyeball weep."

I would not wish to live the years
Of mortals, though they may be sweet
As roses kissed with dewy tears,
The fairest summer morn could greet;
Could I not feel within this heart,
A fond hope lingers, calm and still,
Too soft to whisper, "friends us'er part
Who lives to do the Master's will."

I would not care to walk this earth,
Round which a starry anthem drew—
So honored by her Maker's birth—
And mingle with the cherished few;
Could I not know a radiant peace,
A dream of bliss that knows no end,
Where fear and dread their pow'rs release,
And friend forever lives with friend.

I would not care to think of heaven,
With every joy that hope foretells;
Where from the eye all tears are driven,
And through the heart sweet raptures thrills;
Could I not feel that heaven is mine,
And breathe the fragrance of its air,
In chasing to that world from this,
That I would be a stranger there.

I would not wish the hope were mine,
That when life's life's burden down,
The tear drops shed at sorrow's shrine
Would sparkle there to crown my crown:
Could I not know, awaiting me,
Some cherished soul our Lord had called,
Stood rapt in joyous ecstacy,
To ope the gates of emerald.

Then bid my fondest hope decay,
And let my dearest idol die,
Hurl idols, oh grave, the form away,
That once was precious to mine eye:
Sweet, sacred is the heart-set burden from,
Since at the portals now can be,
My love, my joy, my heart's best theme,
With outstretched arms to welcome me.
—*Detroit Journal.*

Our Story Teller.

HELPS AND HINTS.

A Household Story.

CHAPTER II.

The unsatisfactory state of things continued for the month these two inefficient girls remained. Mr. Newton tried to make himself happy under the general discomfort, and did his utmost to cheer his wife, for, say what one will, an uncomfortable home is the uncheerfulest place on earth, and there can be no comfort where neglect and incompetency reign.

The story of the dismissal of the damsels, together with that of the preceding maidens, soon spread over the village, and as once gave the house a bad name for ten consuming servants. When one hears this station against a mistress, one would think that she found her supremest happiness in a change of domestics. Yet there are many ladies who will join in the chorus by saying, "Yes, I have heard that Mrs. —— is very particular."

After long search and much patience the places were filled, and to Mrs. Newton's satisfaction. At the end of the month the notes to leave came from the servants.

"If you please, ma'am, we wish to leave; we like you and Mr. Newton very much, but the place is so dull. We've always lived where there are trains and omnibuses. It is so quiet here we can't stand it."

Mrs. Newton stared with astonishment. She said but little in reply, and that was to induce them to stay. She offered them higher wages, but it was of no use. "They could get as good wages any day, if not higher, in a place that was not so dead alive."

It was sorry news for Mr. Newton, who with Tibby had again returned to respectable ways; but he only asked the question, "What is to be done?" After a silence of some time, he suddenly asked, "Don't you think, wifey, you might take some lessons in cookery during the next month, and while these girls remain?"

Mrs. Newton looked dismayed. After a while she said, "I might, but have scarcely courage to do so. Probably I shall be shown up in the papers as the lady who at the School of Cookery spoiled in one day 80 eggs and a sweetbread worth 10 shillings!"

"That was not the lady's fault, but of those who attempted to teach. Just try what you can do. Anything to be independent of these servants."

"I don't quite see how by taking lessons in cookery we are to render ourselves independent of servants. I don't know how to do many household needs, I can't scour, or wash, or scrub."

"Nor is a knowledge of this sort of thing needful. We can get a girl or charwoman for this work until we are again suited."

"You know we can't get a charwoman except occasionally, and charwomen are not satisfactory. I think, Herbert, we shall have to get a lady-help."

Mr. Newton started from his chair as if he had been electrified, left the room, and found his consolation in a cigar. This time, though startled, the proposition did not seem quite such an enormity as when his wife first mentioned it. And then he asked himself, "Why not?"

Mrs. Newton pondered over the matter, and took advice thereon from an old and valued friend, who recommended her to advertise for a useful young lady, who would assist the lady in the housework and management of her house.

This was done, and a salary of 20 pounds a year offered, with laundry expenses.

"I shall do this without Herbert's knowledge, for he is just silly on this point."

"As a rule," said her friend, "I object to wives doing anything without their husbands' knowledge, but in this instance I think you would be justified in managing the matter without Mr. Newton's consent. Only, I would caution you to make an agreement with the young lady, if you are fortunate enough to find one suited to her position—for they are not plentiful, mind you—stipulate that her position, as strictly defined must be kept. It would not be pleasant of an evening for you and your husband to be often intruded upon even by your dearest friend or relative; in fact, if this were the case, the latter, however dearly loved, would soon become hateful. You and your acquaintance need be none the less friends, companions if you will, during the day; but let the evening be sacred to non-intrusion. It is better for both parties.

"Another thing, my dear; please remember that a lady-help is not a maid-of-all-work; she is a lady, we will presume, by education and Christian teaching; we won't talk of women who call themselves ladies, but who are rude, overbearing, and unthinking. She may be born in the purple, or in any degree beneath it; but with that you have very little to do. If she be efficient and gentle-mannered, you will find she will be as desirous of keeping he position in the kitchen as you will to have her there, and will be far from proud to sit in her presence in your drawing-room. I grant that a lowly-bred girl who takes the tone of her manners from upper servants will stand upon her rights, be obtrusive and intolerable, and will demand that she shall have her place with you at all times."

"Of course she must sit at meals with us, and then Herbert will be waiting upon her; what is to be done then?"

"She will most likely desire to do this, but if she is worth anything she will quietly settle this matter by simply not permitting such service from your husband."

"But, surely," said Mrs. Newton, "after cooking a dinner she is scarcely in fit condition, in dress and appearance, to sit down to the dinner-table with us."

"That is a great mistake of yours. A slovenly, disorderly, unaught, unmethodical girl would not be fit companionship for anything but her pots and pans; but one who has by her education been taught to find a place in her brain for a multitude of facts, to arrange them in order and keep all her faculties for ready use, will not be dirty or unpresentable in any work she may undertake. I know a case in point of a small, delicate looking young lady, who will dress, punctually, two dinners to perfection. I hasten, one dinner shall consist of soup, fish, meats, entrees, vegetables and sweets; and the other a plain dinner—both ready at the same time; and will, as the clock strikes the dinner hour, seat herself at the dinner-table without any indication, excepting the bloom on her cheek, that she has been otherwise than engaged in pleasant idleness. I know this to be a fact; not only will she dress the dinner, but prepare the vegetables and other matters also. Believe me, this is true."

"My dear lady, where on earth is this paragon to be found?"

"Oh, you know her quite well, but have never suspected that the well dressed dinners you have so often praised have been begun and finished by her little hands." The old lady's eyes sparkled with intense amusement at Mrs. Newton's bewilderment.

"Do you mean to say that your delicate looking notes perform all the wonders? Why, I thought you had a treasure of a cook in Mary, and have so envied you that woman."

"I shall say nothing further but that you are deceived in Mary's accomplishments. She never cooked anything beyond the most trifling matter, generally ill rather than well done, simply because she has no genius, no liking for cookery and sees no necessity for fixed principles; all her rules consist in 'the rule of thumb.' However, Mary is just the young woman you must have under your lady-help, who has no business to clean pots and pans; but she should know how to do these things in order that she may instruct those who are ignorant of such matters. Neither has she any business to clean steps, nor carry coals, nor light fires; only yet must have the knowledge at her fingers' ends, just as much as she will have the notes at music if she plays. To clean knives and blacklead grate may be done by any one if 'how to do it is known,' for often a mistress let servantless has to do these things. To clean men's boots is another matter quite distinct from cleaning those of ladies; men's boots require vigorous brushing by arms and hands used to scrubbing and cleaning.

"If you can manage to get an adopted 'daughter of the house,' who really understands domestic duties, you will do infinitely better than with two illbred servants who know that, for a month at least, they must, if honest, be clothed, fed, and paid, no matter how flagrantly the work be neglected. As to the manner of performing the work they are hired for, there is no appeal to any judge. Servants persist in declaring they have done the appointed work, no matter how unsatisfactorily it is done.

"I am quite sure, if you are not in too great a hurry, you will get a very useful companion, for so many girls find themselves totally unable to obtain certificates for teaching that they are turning their attention to the useful instead of the weak elaborations of flimsy acquirements; and society, both in the higher and the lower class, will be improved by it."

"I do not see that," said Mrs. Newton.

"The higher class, not the highest, will have a better groundwork for education, because those girls who have passed their examinations are better fitted to impart knowledge; those who are unsuccessful will be able to turn their attention to domestic employment, and thus emancipate themselves from the tax of incompetent elder servants, and be enabled to teach the young ones. It is in this way that I see there will be a regeneration of servants, the race being nearly extinct because the mistresses are ignorant as themselves. Manufacturing towns, it is true, absorb in factory work the young girls. But the daughters of a home remain, and with them the power, if they so will it, to become useful, sensible, well-informed wives, and, therefore, must necessarily set a good example to whatever undisciplined human material may fall into their hands. Depend upon it, my dear, that the lady-help system will flourish and develop into something far more satisfactory than is anticipated. The more it is scorned, ridiculed, and down-trodden, the stronger the plan will spread."

"You are no hope and nerve, dear friend. I wish Herbert could hear your arguments."

"Oh, nonsense! Mr. Newton, when he sees the working of your new move, will be quite contented. In seeking your lady-help don't take a fantastical, over-dressed lady, with 'holey' gloves, lustreless boots, and with a general air of untidiness, nor one who prates about her family or ancestors. She means by this to extort extra consideration, and will keep you in a nervous tremor, fearing you may fall short of what she considers your duty to her high mightiness. Sensible people who come in genteel, good order themselves, and take heart from the old rhyme—

"'When Adam delved and Eve span,
Who was then the gentleman?'

A gentlewoman, young or old, will be known by her general deportment, her habits and manner of address. Say to her, without reservation and as gently as possible, what are the arrangements you wish carried out by her, and also what will be your desires in reference to herself; keep back nothing on either point, or you will find it difficult to broach the subject when she is under your roof. I have found it an excellent plan with regard to servants, after I have received a satisfactory character of one, to write to her and recapitulate the terms, and for what description of work she is engaged, and state what day and about what hour she is expected; and, if she is satisfied, she is directed to write her reply on a part of the letter underneath my signature."

Mrs. Newton, with many thanks, took leave; it wiser than when she came, she still felt doubtful as to the result, and not quite happy in knowing that her husband was not agreeable to the scheme. "But," she asked herself, "what is to be done otherwise?" and in answer to this question an advertisement was inserted in the *Times*.

CHAPTER III.

In due time about a hundred letters were delivered at the address to which applicants were requested "to apply by letter only." Mrs. Newton took them with dismay, for how was she to choose from such a multitude? Some of the letters were ill-spelt and slovenly written; these were at once put away. Others entered into a long story about their reverses and consequent poverty, and were willing to do anything not menial. Others, again, were anxious to do everything, but insisted upon being treated as ladies, and could not associate with servants. One very young girl said she would come for a very low salary, but she was not clever at housework, but was willing to be taught. The letter was written in a weak and trembling hand, with ink pale as discolored water; it breathed loudly of incompetence and a wailing, dismal nature. For the writer there was nothing but pity, though Mrs. Newton longed to write to her, "Rouse yourself, and don't wail."

Seven letters were put on one side to be again referred to. Though the best among the lot, the writers did not seem quite acceptable. Nearly all had been taught with a view to teaching, and some had served in shops. Before Mrs. Newton had arrived at any decision another bundle of letters came. The first opened contained few words besides the address:—

"MADAM—I shall be pleased if you will kindly appoint an interview. My father, now dead, was a chemist. I am very domesticated, have been well trained in cookery and household duties, and shall be glad to fill your situation. Yours, obediently, ANNA SEVERN."

"Yes, this will do;" said Mrs. Newton, and forthwith a letter was dispatched, summoning Miss Severn for the day following. When the lady appeared she was dressed in plain mourning. There was a little nervous agitation at first on both sides, which, however, soon wore off. Mrs. Newton asked, "Do you quite understand the duties which the situation involves?"

"Yes; it is nothing more nor less than a trusted worker—servants, perhaps; one who helps the mistress in the management of the house and in the work of it. Your advertisement stated that a girl would be kept in addition to a lady's service."

"Yes, that is exactly what I want. But may I ask if you expect a private sitting-room?"

"Certainly not. All I hope for is a bedroom to myself, where I can sit of an evening; though I should not care for that if the girl under me is respectable and teachable."

"But, Miss Severn, you would expect to take your meals with myself and husband?"

"With yourself, if you desired it; but husband and wife should be alone, if not at meals, certainly in the evening. But, as I said before, if my associate is a good girl, I should feel a pleasure in treating her as my equal, and in teaching her all the good I know. The question of meals I will leave to you."

"You do not object to wait upon us at dinner?" asked Mrs. Newton.

"If I am at the same table there is no more waiting or service rendered than a dutiful daughter would proffer; but if you prefer the ordinary waiting in the room, I have no objection. Of course, then my meals would be taken in the kitchen."

"I will not deny, Miss Severn, that I am puzzled in this matter, because my husband objects to the assistance of a lady help; he thinks it an anomalous position, and decidedly refuses to be waited upon in any way by one. I do not like to ask of you the service of a servant, for a lady help is nothing more, only she has in her turn a servant under her."

"This is the case from the highest to the lowest, at least so I have been taught; and I have yet to learn that there is any degradation in doing one's duty, which may not, however, always jump with our inclinations. I have been a governess for a short time, and I should much prefer being a mistress in my kitchen to filling such a situation again. It is not only that spoilt or unruly children—encouraged to be so often by their parents—have to be brought into order which is painful and nerve-trying work, but one's position is a blank, and the servants of such a household are hard to bear with. They look upon one as very much beneath themselves, and treat one with scarcely concealed contempt. A governess' life is a sad one."

"Yes, it is too true: but I fear you would find the situation of a lady-help not better," replied Mrs. Newton.

"If you will try me I will endeavor to fill my position with satisfactoriness, and pride shall not interfere. If Mr. Newton objects to a lady-help, there is no necessity for his knowing that I am otherwise than servant; he will not know it from me. You will call me Anna. The girl may call me the same. Are you suited with one? If not, I know of a lively active, teachable girl, who has been accustomed to call me 'Miss Anna.'"

"My present girl, whom I have had for a fortnight, seems tolerably good; she is fifteen. I am not capable of teaching her; you might, perhaps; but she shall call you Miss Anna all the same. There is one question I scarcely like to ask; it is about references," and Mrs. Newton blushed like a peony.

Miss Severn put into Mrs. Newton's hand a card, who started when she saw the name, and asked, "Are you any relation of his?"

"He is my uncle, and I would refer you to him. He is my father's only brother, but from illness and sad trouble with the details of which I need not trouble you, we, his neices, are anxious to maintain ourselves in this respectability."

Mrs. Newton looked grave and sad. Here was the name of a man who, for his scientific knowledge, men were delighted to honor, who was held in high esteem by his sovereign, who had comparative wealth showered upon him, yet here was a neice of his asking service at her hands. Could it be possible? In a few moments she said, "Miss Severn, I shall feel most uncomfortable to see you filling a servant's place. This thing cannot be."

"Please don't say this, madam. If you will say, 'Come,' I would sooner be with you than fill any other position. Please say the word, dear madam," and she took Mrs. Newton's hand, and with soft, gentle pressure, said, "I will be with you on Monday or earlier, shall I?"

"I can scarcely say 'Yes,' and I am very unwilling to say 'No;' but will think it over."

"I have nothing to think about, so will come early;" and, with mutual pressure of the hands, they parted.

Mrs. Newton in the evening sat thinking for some time, and was so absorbed that her husband noticed her abstraction.

"What is the matter, wifey?"

"Nothing, Herbert."

"Yes, that is always what a woman's abstraction ends in—nothing! I wish you would think of extricating ourselves from this servant difficulty, though we are not alone. There's half a dozen houses that I know of just in the same mess."

Still there was no reply, and Mr. Newton soon became buried in his paper.

The next day Mrs Newton called on the wife of the celebrated professor, to inquire respecting the antecedents of Miss Severn, and was very satisfactorily answered. This was a matter for rejoicing, for Mrs. Newton was, the night previous, dubious as to whether she had not been imposed upon, and was willing to start rightly, if the result should not be so successful as she yet hoped for.

The next thing was to see that Miss Severn's bedroom was made as comfortable as if it were intended for an honored guest. Everything was arranged with the greatest care. There were pretty but no very costly articles, but there was everything needful, and to spare. A comfortable easy-chair and footstool were among the furnishings, and a down quilt was on the bed. A fire was laid in the grate. "Yes," said Mrs. Newton, softly, "it shall be as if she were my daughter."

Ellen, the under-help, was cautioned to be respectful and tidy, and to clean up as well as she knew how, for a friend of Mrs. Newton's, whom she was to call Miss Anna, was coming to help her to manage the house, and would teach her many things if she wished to learn.

The very great inspection which Mrs. Newton made among the kitchen articles inspired Ellen with some dread. "What's missus up to now?" she mentally inquired. "If I'm to have a stuck-up, ignorant critter over me I shan't stop, that's flat." Luckily these sentiments were inaudible.

CHAPTER IV.

Monday morning arrived, and with it, in due time, Miss Severn. Ellen stared with astonishment as she was herself greeted in words she had hitherto only heard addressed from one lady to another. Mrs. Newton met Miss Severn with all cordiality, kissed her, and after a little while seated her at the luncheon-table, where she acted exactly as if she were a daughter, and no stranger. "It is like being at home," she said. Afterwards Ellen cleared the luncheon things away in a heedless fashion, while Miss Severn went to her room.

In the course of half an hour, Miss Severn, having on a cotton shirt fastened at the side by way of wrapper, and over that a loose cotton jacket, well and prettily made, went into the kitchen to examine its contents. Ellen was still more bewildered, and asked her, "Are you going to cook the dinner?"

"Yes, and will show you how, if you are a good girl and very clean, because, you know, cookery requires the greatest cleanliness, and however great a desire you may have to become a cook, unless you are yourself clean, as well as your pots and pans, everything in cookery will be spoiled."

"Well, I'm sure, you look more fit to play the planner than to cook."

"Now, Ellen, I hope we shall be very good friends. You, no doubt, can teach me some things, and I will in return teach you what you don't know; only there are two things necessary for our friendship—you must be clean and orderly, that is, you must make no litters, but put everything in its place; and I know you will try to obey me."

"Yes, that I will, if you'll be good to me, and not call me names, Miss Anna."

Mrs. Newton here made her appearance, and said, "I think, my dear Miss Anna, that you will not want my assistance this afternoon, unless I can wash up the glasses;" and with that she took up rather a greasy pan, and proceeded to pour hot water into it. Miss Severn, with the quickness of thought, said, "Pray don't mind; Ellen or I will do this. You look tired, do lie down for an hour."

Mrs. Newton took it as a hint that she was not wanted, but this was really not the case. Miss Severn found that she would have to say before Ellen that glasses should not be washed in hot water, but in cold, and in a clean pan or tub; besides, there were no clean clothes to wipe them on.

"Suppose, Ellen, you get a tub of cold water, put it into a tablespoonful or two of soda, put the clothes in, stir them round with this stick, and let them stay a little while."

"That's a queer way of washing clothes. I always have very hot water, and I can't get them clean with that: I'm sure cold water won't do."

"We'll see about it presently, and if my plan answers, I'll tell you why it does so. I shall never tell you to do anything out of the way without giving you a reason for it."

"Now, that's good of you, Miss Anna, for I lived last where there was a real fussed cook, and when I used to ask her a question about what she was doing, she'll flick a cloth at my head." Ellen chuckled over her recollections.

"Mrs. Newton tells me there is no dinner to be cooked to-day, only a steak and some potato chips for Mr. Newton's tea at 7 o'clock."

"I know there's a steak, but about the potato chips, I'm sure there's none in the house. There's potatos, but no chips. How about the cloths, Miss Anna?"

"I shall think little of that. Cut it out; take this iron spoon, and well beat them in the soda and water."

"What a joke, to wash cloths with a spoon!"

"Don't you see, Ellen, that I make the spoon do the work, and do not injure my hands with the soda?—a short, thick stick would do better."

"Well, the dirt do come out, surely."

"Now, take a pan of warm water and some soap, twist the cloths each round the spoon, and put them in the hot water; throw away the dirty water, soap and wash the cloths, rubbing them one against the other, and not against your hands; now see how quickly the dirt comes out; they will not need to be boiled. Wash them in another hot water with soap, and rinse them in cold water. Wring them dry, and put them on the horse before the fire."

"You have heard of dyers, of course. Now, dyers always put their articles to be dyed into hot dye-stuffs, to set the colors; and if you put dirty clothes into hot water, the dirt is dyed into them, and it is difficult to make them white afterwards. These cloths are now white, though they once were; we must see, after a while, if we cannot whiten them."

Ellen stood with her mouth open, listening. All her utterance was, "I never!"

"I will soon be tea time, Ellen, and I'm going to have it with you. Clear all dirty things into the scullery—no dirty plates or cutlery should be brought here. This is our parlor, you know. We must have a clean hearth, a clean floor, and a clean table-cloth. We can't this afternoon have a clean floor, but you can sweep it. There's the broom, which should never be turned down on the sweeping part, but be turned handle downwards. Don't sweep the center of the floor first, but commence in the corners, and sweep to tea center, or into the fireplace. You will save yourself so much work by this plan. Remember never to sweep into a corner; it is much trouble to get the dirt out again."

Miss Severn took a cup of tea to Mrs. Newton while the sweeping was going on, and then told her that if she would leave the downstairs work entirely to her, she and the girl would get on very well, and that Ellen should be sent up with the tea for Mr. Newton, and thus she need not make her appearance at all; but advised that Mr. Newton should be told that assistance had been procured. By the time that Miss Severn came downstairs, the tea things were set, the kettle was boiling, and the hearth looked bright and clean, but poor Ellen was scarcely presentable. She was, however, soon persuaded that no tea could be had till face, hands, and apron were scrupulously clean.

After tea Miss Severn proposed that the glasses, cups, saucers, and all the used crockery should be washed and in their places, work which Ellen thought was of only five minutes. From a paper parcel Miss Severn took a rather small brush bound with iron where usually there is string and glue; also she took a cloth which appeared to have once done duty as an apron; it was hemmed, but had no strings to it.

"What in the world is that for, Miss Anna?"

"I often find, Ellen, that when I go to help a friend who is without servants, that these things are generally not to be found until the mistress gets them. The brush is for washing tea-things and plates, because I don't like to make my hands greasy and wet more than I can help; and the cloth is a plan of my own for polishing the glassy. It is soft and free from fluff, you see. It was never at any time an apron, but bought for the express purpose of polishing glassess. The usual glass cloths, unless they are made of fine linen, are very fluffy.

"Now, my bright girl, put that large old tray here, and these two pans upon it, one filled with cold water and the other with boiling water; put a little soda into the boiling water. Collect into a basin all the slops in the cups, and water out of the glasses, and put the pieces into one plate. If there is nothing uncle was still among the living, and George Strickland had not yet left London in search of him, when on a certain morning a telegram sent by Mr. Madgin from Southampton was brought to Lady Pollexfen. It was brief and to the purpose:

"Thoroughly successful. The Great Mogul is travelling with me. His Highness will reach Dupley Walls to-morrow."

Lady Pollexfen was sitting up in bed drinking her chocolate when the message was taken in to her. She requested Janet to read it aloud. The cup and saucer dropped from her fingers as Janet read. She turned quite white and faint, and for a minute or two was unable to speak. After smelling awhile at her salts she revived, and asked Janet to read the message a second time.

"That good Madgin!" she exclaimed. "What a thing it is to be served faithfully!" Then turning to Janet: "See, child, what can be accomplished by intelligence and perseverance!" she cried. "When Sergeant Nicholas came here and told his story, how hopeless it seemed to expect that my poor boy's Diamond would ever be recovered for me: and yet, behold, it is here, and the wicked are brought to confusion!"

During the whole of that day her ladyship was very much elated, and correspondingly gracious and good-tempered towards Janet. In the afternoon they drove to Tydsbury, and there her ladyship was pleased to buy a set of like;' because if a thing is to be done, it is better to be done at once, and without asking ourselves do we like it? I'll show you how to clean saucepans. No matter how dirty they may be, if they are filled with cold water and a little soda is put into them, and the water made to boil, they will soon be clean from the boiling water only. Is there an old birch broom in the house? If so, bring it to me."

The birch broom was brought, the handle taken out, and the thin end worn end of the broom tied up tightly, only about two inches of the thick end left untied; then Ellen was shown how to scrub the bottom and sides of a saucepan without much soiling of hands, or scraping with her nails.

"Now, Ellen, I saw these brooms used in France, and once I took the trouble to bring some to England, but I am grieved to say that the servants lighted fires with them."

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE GREAT MOGUL DIAMOND.

A Story of Mystery, Love and Adventure.

BY T. W. SPEIGHT.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE DIAMOND AT DUPLEY WALLS.

Mr. Solomon Madgin had not failed to inform Lady Pollexfen from time to time of the progress that was being made in the attempt to recover the Great Mogul Diamond. This he had done without entering into any minute details of the case, of which, indeed, her ladyship cared to hear nothing, it was enough for her to be told every few days that Mr. Madgin still held the clue in his fingers, and that each step which he took would, to the best of his belief, bring him so much nearer the object the attainment of which they both had so deeply at heart.

Lady Pollexfen had of course been apprised that Mr. Madgin's presence in Jersey was needed for the furtherance of their scheme; but when he had been gone a week and no news of any kind had been received from him, she began to grow not only impatient, but uneasy lest Mr. Madgin should in any way have come to grief. She could neither eat nor sleep as she was wont to do, but wandered aimlessly up and down the great empty rooms at Dupley Walls, leaning on Janet's arm, and either muttering to herself about people who had long been dead, or complaining querulously that Mr. Madgin, the man whom she had trusted above all others, had also died her in her time of need.

To Janet that was indeed a season of heart-weariness. She had not had time to recover from the crushing blow which her mother's death had inflicted upon her. Many a time she woke up in the night and found herself in tears, for not even in sleep could she forget the loss of her whom she had learned to love so dearly, while still ignorant of the tie that bound them so closely together.

With nerves unstrung, and a heart that was ill at ease, it is not to be wondered at that even from the very quest which George Strickland had gone upon her mind seemed to draw in and gather to itself certain premonitions, vague and faint, of further unhappiness to come. She longed for and yet dreaded the coming of each post. Major Strickland sometimes write to her, and any morsel of news was precious to her that had any reference, however remote, to Captain George. And yet she never opened one of those letters without trembling lest it might contain some news of a hitherto unknown father who might, perchance, come and claim her, and take her away forever from a spot which her mother's memory made sacred to her, and from those faithful friends to whom her young affections clung so tenaciously.

Janet's life at Dupley Walls was one of which few people would have envied her. From the date of Sister Agnes's death, Lady Pollexfen had grown more exacting in her requirements, more capricious in her moods, more difficult to please than she had ever been before. There was a terrible wakefulness about her. What sleep she had was intermittent and of short duration; and Janet herself never got to bed without being wearied out both in body and spirit with her long attendances on the strange old woman. Often, when she had not been asleep more than a couple of hours, Lady Pollexfen's bell would ring violently, and then Janet had to rise and dress herself and hasten to the old woman's room, to find that she was wanted to read aloud, or, it might be, to play ecarte, while her ladyship sat up in bed with a gay Indian shawl thrown round her shoulders, her withered face bent keenly over her cards, and an occasioned hollow chuckle issuing from her lips. At the end of a couple of hours or so she would go off to sleep almost as suddenly as if she were an automaton whose eyes were made to shut at the touch of a spring. Then Janet would creep back shivering to bed, only to begin another day's dreary round a few hours later.

During the last few weeks Lady Pollexfen had seemed if she could scarcely bear to let Janet out of her sight. Not that she was any more affectionate to her than she had ever been. Her was still as hard, her tongue was as caustic as of old. But she seemed now as if she could not bear to be alone: as constant companionship with Janet's fresh and sweet young nature was needed to keep alive the slowly dying embers of her life. For days at a time, Janet was so fully occupied that she could do to steal one short hour out of the twenty-four for a solitary walk in the park: but without such a walk she felt that she should have soon sunk down under the exactions of her life at Dupley Walls. A visit to Major Strickland at Tydsbury was now entirely out of the question. As already stated, the post now and then brought her a brief note from him. As the tenor of these notes was invariably affectionate and reassuring, they were cherished by her as the chiefest grains of comfort by which the dreary passage of time was brightened at Dupley Walls.

As previous chapters have already told us, George Strickland was still busy with his quest at the very time that Mr. Madgin was on his way back to Dupley Walls with the Great Mogul Diamond in his possession. Consequently Captain Strickland, and there are no chickens, put it among the ashes—not cinders, mind—and throw away the slops. Now for the glasses; here are four. Wash them with your hand in cold water in a *small basin*, or tub only large enough to hold one glass is the best, but that is not here. As each glass is washed, turn it on an old tray or clean cloth to drain for an instant, then wipe on the coarse glass cloth, and afterwards polish with this cloth made of printed calico. Now take the milk and cream jugs, wash them well, clean them inside and out with the brush, put them into cold water for a minute while you are washing the saucers, then drain the jugs on a tray or cloth. After a time these will need no wiping, and are better without. Now for the saucers. Put them all into the hot water, take each up singly with the finger and thumb, wash them with the brush, and put them into the cold water; drain them also. And now for the tea cups. Wash the handles well, so that no dirty places appear where the handles are set on; rinse them also. And now for your greasy plates. Be sure to clean them well, and rinse, so that no dirt sticks to them. If there are any dishes, you must have more clean hot and cold water. With plenty of water, and a knowledge of how to do it, washing glasses and china is quite a pleasant work."

"It's the dirty saucepans that I don't like to clean, Miss Anna."

"Don't let you and I say 'We don't

STOCK RAISING.

How it is Carried on in Wyoming.

Some Valuable Information for Those Contemplatting This Enterprise.

PASTORAL RESOURCES.

In the preceding article it has been shown that, while a mountainous region, the Wyoming ranges are so broken, scattered, and interspersed with valleys and table-lands, as well as flanked and buttressed for the most part by sloping strata of the most recent rock formations, that one, in crossing the Territory in almost any direction, would find it difficult to believe himself in the midst of the Rocky Mountains. It was also shown that while the average altitude of the Territory is about one and one-fifth miles above the sea-level, and mountain peaks capped with eternal snow are visible from almost any point within its boundaries, it has certain physical features and surroundings which give it a peculiar and very desirable climate.

As a result of these favorable conditions of fertile soils and tempered climate, almost the entire surface of the country, plains and lower mountains, as well as valleys, is clothed with nutritious grasses. In some districts, as in portions of the Green River Basin, in the section South of the Sweetwater Mountains, and in several others of the Central area between the Sweetwater Valley and the Southern extremity of the Big Horn Mountains, the grass is scattering and insufficient for cattle grazing, and even in some of the richest valleys, as well as in the midst of plains embraced within chosen cattle ranges, that ever ready plant, the sage-brush (*Artemisia tridentata*), has taken the ground and holds the supremacy. But in these less desirable localities there is often enough of grass to afford sustenance to considerable numbers of cattle, while the tender sort of sage-brush is also relished by them.

Besides these advantages, it is proper to bear in mind that along nearly all the streams there are moist lands upon which is annually produced an abundance of taller grasses suitable for hay, so that practically every ranchman or owner of herds is able to put up hay in almost any quantity for his work horses, his sheep, should he have any, and for such young and tender cattle, blooded or native, as would be better for a little special care.

THE CATTLE BUSINESS.

There are two general methods of conducting the cattle business here. The first, and hitherto the most common, is the grazing method, pure and simple. The person proposing to embark in the business selects his location on some stream where he can always be sure of water, builds a cabin or substantial house as his means and pleasure appear to warrant, erects a stable for his horses, and his strong inclosures (called "corrals") in connection for convenience in handling such of his cattle as need special attention—for branding, etc.—or purchases all these ready prepared, and then proceeds to gather in his herds. This he may do by purchasing those driven in from Texas, Montana, Oregon or Washington, and offered for sale, or he may go to those sections himself and select his cattle, driving them to his ranch or having them delivered according to the terms of his purchase. Sometimes the first plan will turn out better, sometimes the latter, the result turning upon various circumstances to be carefully considered at the time. During the past season the prices have ranged as follows—cattle delivered:

Texas cattle—Yearlings, half male and half female, $8.50 to $9; two-year olds, half male and half female, $12.50 to $13; three year-olds and over, male, $17.50 to $18; cows $12 to $13.

Western cattle (from Oregon and Territories)—Yearlings, half male and half female, $13 to $14.50; two-year olds, half male and half female, about $17; three-year-olds and over, male, $22 to $25; cows $20 to $22.

Steers are preferred, but every purchaser will include a proportion of heifers and cows, as a means of holding his herd together better, as well as of increasing and improving his stock. In such cases he should have good Durham bulls in the proportion of four or five to every hundred cows. At first the supply of young cattle was almost wholly from Texas, but those from the West (from the Territories and from Oregon) are now preferred.

COST OF OUTFIT.

As the whole country is open to his enterprise, except that he must not trespass upon the actual ranch of another, he could even make his purchase, if more convenient, in advance of a permanent location, and, with his herds, herders, and tents, roll his way to the available spot. But the explorations are better done first, then the matter of placing his stock is a direct and simple business. His herders will cost him about $30 to $35 per month, board included, and he will need four of them per thousand head of cattle for the first one to three thousand, 10 for 5,000, and 20 for 20,000 head; the number proportionally lessening somewhat as the herd increases in the number of animals. He cannot be too careful about selecting them, for upon such carefulness of choice will depend the per cent. of his profits.

If he should not intend to give very close attention to the business himself he will take every pains to find a foreman who is competent and faithful. For him he will pay $50 to $100 per month.

There will need to be furnished four or five horses per man to insure the thorough working of the cattle. These can be had for $30 to $50 per head. The small mountain ponies known throughout the mountain region as "bronchos" will prove most economical. They are tough, yet nervous, quick, and fleet; will turn short corners in heading off cattle without stumbling; will endure much continuous service without injury and will keep in good condition on simple grass.

ROUNDING UP.

The rounding up is done in this wise: On a certain day of the year, usually early in May, as determined by the stock association, each owner of cattle sends out a number of herders proportioned to the number of his cattle, to unite with others of that region in the work of gathering to an appointed place of rendezvous all the cattle that can be found within the bounds agreed upon. They go forth in squads, some this way, some that, though under the direction and control of a chosen foreman of that "round-up." By and by they will have worked their respective sections all over and brought in all the cattle they could find, and the "round-up" will be complete. Each owner, if not there himself, will have an interested and competent man to represent him and see that every creature bearing his brand is turned out to him and that the unbranded calves belonging to him accompany their dams to the spot chosen for the aggregation of his stock. The work of separating is called "cutting out." It is done by men on horseback, who ride among the great body of cattle, numbering often several thousands, and selecting cattle of a certain brand, move them quietly to the outside of the grand herd, when they are instantly taken in charge by other mounted men in waiting and hurried away to the designated spot. Frequently, especially at the first, when the nucleus of the individual herd of which they are to form a part has not yet been found, so as to be noticeable, an animal will so persistently turn back to the general herd to make lively work for a dozen men. This is especially the case with young or new cattle which have no idea of what is expected of them. It necessary, the lasso is used, and there are always herders who know how to use it with marvelous skill. The individual herd secured is then driven either to the ranch of the owner for a new beginning of the year, and especially for the branding of the calves, or to some convenient corral within the general range, where that work can be done as well. The two-year-olds and those older are driven into narrow passages between stockades, and when in quarters so close that they cannot escape the hot iron, receive on side or hip the sign by which they are henceforth to be known. The calves are thrown upon the ground and branded. Brands must be recorded by the county clerk, and no brand can be recorded more than once. The laws of the Territory regulating this whole matter appear to have been well considered, and heavy penalties are attached to their violation. The period of "round up" is about two months, ending with June. After that the work of assorting for market begins. Not unfrequently a considerable number of the best feeders and easily fattened animals in a good herd will be ready to send off in July; but the general season begins later and continues until Winter. Three-year-olds are often sold, but the more common ages at which cattle are turned off are four and five. When they are brought from remote places, as from Texas or Oregon, it is considered better to keep them over to the second year than to sell them the first year after importation; the reason being that during the first year they are adapting themselves to the climate and other changes incident to a new location, and do not get fairly in condition to improve their best until a later period.

COST OF KEEPING.

The estimated average cost of keeping is about as follows: For herds of 1,000 $2 per head; for herds of 5,000, $1 per head; for herds of 10,000, 80 cents to $1. Many cattle men, well situated and having large herds of their own, are willing to receive and care for small herds belonging to others for the sum of $1 per head per annum; taking the same care of them as of their own, but of course not being responsible for losses.

The profits realized will naturally depend upon judiciousness of location, terms of purchase, skill of management, and the rising of the markets during the season when sales are made. In the past, enormous profits have been realized in some cases, even 50 to 100 per cent. on the investment. But with the increased number of herds introduced, the increase in price of young cattle, owing to the growing demand, and, above all, with the present low price of beef, the profits more likely range between 20 and 30 per cent.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

Next to the cattle business ranks sheep husbandry. It was later in getting a start, because the latitude and altitude of Wyoming appeared to render it doubtful. The experiment has been well tried, however, and this branch of pastoral industry is now steadily growing in favor. In fact, it has already gained an important rank. It has the disadvantage of requiring a little more care and watchfulness, and the per cent. of loss from storms, disease, and accident is somewhat greater. But, on the other hand, it admits of beginning with much less capital, and is said by many who have herds of both cattle and sheep to be really more profitable under proper conditions.

From a gentleman who now manages a number of sheep ranches, with flocks aggregating 1,000 head, I gather the following facts touching the usual mode of procedure in stocking a ranch in quite a moderate way, together with the profits of such enterprise:

The smallest number with which an economical beginning can be made is 1,500 head. It will cost no more for improvements and help to manage this number than to manage 1,000. The beginner will generally select his range with reference to feed, protection from storms, water and meadow land. If he would commence with 1,500 Mexican sheep, his impro

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Publishers.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, FEB. 6, 1879

OUR CLUB LIST.

We have made arrangements with the publishers enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following publications for the prices annexed (postage pre-paid):

WEEKLIES.	Single Copy.	With Blade.
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Please remember that we CANNOT ALLOW COMMISSIONS on subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for THE BLADE, as stated.

As it is a invariable custom in all newspaper offices, a subscription year is reckoned as FIFTY TWO WEEKS.

SOME of the mails in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan are carried by dog trains.

WHY don't some widow of CALEB CUSHING'S turn up? He died worth a million dollars.

BOSTON *Herald*: Kisses on the mouth is the last luxury interdicted in the name of health. Now rebellion is a duty.

THE Chief Captain of the British Navy will henceforth be a Bishop. His jurisdiction will then be a See in fact as well as name.

THE River and Harbor bill will appropriate between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000, or about half what the Secretary of War asked for.

GOVERNOR JOHN W. HALL, the newly inaugurated Governor of Delaware, is a merchant, farmer and ship owner. The salary of the Governor is only $2,000, and there is no executive mansion.

MOUNT ETNA is now throwing up great quantities of mud. Why couldn't it wait for this until next year, and then hire itself out as a Democratic organ?

BURDETTE has got back to Iowa. He says: "Once more I set foot on my native soil, and real estate is rising, in consequence of so much of it being withdrawn from market."

EX-SEN. CHANDLER is moving down upon Lansing with sure and steady steps, and will probably arrive there about the time Sen. CHRISTIANCY'S resignation takes effect.

"THE Gold in the Treasury is continually increasing." As our talented friend Gen. EWING remarked, "It is as impossible to make Resumption successful, as to stand a pyramid upon its apex."

FROM their charges for assisting American men-of-war in trouble, British sailor men seem to have a high idea of the value and importance of that style of craft. This is one of the lessons of 1812.

LORD DERBY lately at Rochdale attributed English depression to overproduction, loans to insolvent States, and want of confidence as to peace abroad. He urged emigration and temperance as palliatives.

IT begins to look as if Germany is to join the rest of the Continent in making a government monopoly of tobacco. This will leave England as the only place in Europe where a man can get a decent cigar.

STILL the Southern Firesters are held back from making conspicuous idiots of themselves by replying to BRAGG'S patriotic speech. The managing Democrats seem, at last, to have gained some sense.

THE SEA OF FORGETFULNESS.

FROM THE GERMAN OF HERDER.

From rolling wave to wave we press
Adown Time's flowing tide,
To that great sea Forgetfulness,
And in its bosom hide.

THE Jersey Democrats are violently angered at Gov. MCCLELLAN'S attempt to make the State Judiciary non-partizan, by appointing an equal number of Democrats and Republicans to the judgeships. Democrats never favor non-partizanship except when the Republicans have all the power.

SEN. EDMUND'S proposition to make another amendment to the Constitution to prevent the payment of Rebel War Claims shows how imminent the leaders at Washington consider this great danger to be. The alternative presented to the people is either to keep the Democrats out of power, or to so amend the Constitution as to diminish as far as possible their opportunities for plunder.

THIS is from *Punch*: Discontented pauper (on the Christmas dinner): "Well, this is the wust Chris'mas dinner as ever we'ad since I've been in the 'ouse! I thinks as when we 'as a dinner party the master ought to ax us whether we likes it well done and whether we takes fat, and not cut the vittles and showl it on our plates anyhow!"

"GIVE the $10,000 to some poor woman"—BEN. BUTLER.

"Then saith one of his disciples, JUDAS ISCARIOT, SIMON'S son, which should betray him:

"'Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?'

"This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief"—*The Gospel of St. Luke.*

THE ARMY AND THE SCHOOLS.

It is a wonder that in these days of what is called advanced civilization, those countries which claim to have made the most rapid strides forward do not yet recognize the fact that the education of the children is of far greater importance than the maintenance of a large standing army in times of peace. Even England, great as she is, in intelligence and physical strength, advance in the arts and sciences, with a free and liberal Government that seeks the welfare of its people in all possible ways, spends each year upon her army five and a half times as much as upon her schools. Germany, the land that boasts of its free thought, of its educational advantages for rich and poor, of its enforced system of schooling which will compel every individual to learn to read and write, uses a sum of money annually upon its military force four and two-fifths times as great as upon the common schools. It is not so surprising to learn that France does not yet recognize the greater importance of educating all of its children, and that the proportion of money expended upon the army and the educational institutions there is almost 16 to 1.

In the United States the opposite condition of things exist. Much more hard cash is used in the support of schools for the benefit of the masses, than for the maintenance of a military force. Considering the immense extent of country whose borders are to be protected, the great national interests which are often involved in mooted diplomatic questions, the size of our standing army seems ridiculously small, but the history of the past shows that it has hitherto been large enough for all practical purposes. A country which can, as in the late civil war, bring hundreds of thousands of men into the field armed and equipped for action, and of the best material for fighting purposes in the world, has little need of a great military body, whose existence entails an endless burden of expense upon the people. A small army with its knowledge of war tactics is sufficient in times of trouble to leaven the mass of sturdy yeomanry whose patriotism brought them so quickly to the front when the national existence was imperiled, and under similar circumstances would do so again. It was in truth among the latter that those who did the most efficient service were found.

That this policy could be carried out in countries not under a purely Republican form of Government to the extent that it may be in the United States is not probable, but the advancement of the education of the masses will do much towards placing a nation in a condition to protect itself without the financial burden of an immense standing army. It remains for this Government to take one step further in pursuing its present policy, and that is to make education compulsory. Let that be done, and this people may challenge the world in war as they already do in the arts of peace.

RESIGNATION OF M'MAHON.

Marshal MACMAHON has fulfilled his repeated threat and placed his resignation in the hands of his Ministers, at the same time taking such steps as seem to make it evident that he is firm in his intention to retire to private life Perhaps this is the easiest way out of the difficulties which have surrounded him. DUFAURE as Premier has never been to his taste. He accepted him under the stress of circumstances, and his relations with him have been anything but cordial. While this was true, he could not but perceive that it was GAMBETTA'S intention to keep him in place so long as it pleased that acute politician, and then displace him with a Premier of still more pronounced liberalism. With MACMAHON'S hatred of GAMBETTA this prospect was anything but agreeable, and rather than be compelled to yield farther to these influences, which hampered his own freedom of action, he has resigned.

It must be conceded that he has, by this step, shown a considerable degree of political cowardice. Evidently he has not, in any sense, comprehended his true position of Chief Executive Magistrate, whose duties were simply to promulgate and execute the laws made by the Chambers, and that he could not be held responsible for the consequences of any of their enactments. He has desired to absolutely unite the two branches of the administration, a thing which could not be done without endangering the present form of Government, and throwing everything into confusion.

M. GREVY is the person elected to fill the vacant position. There has also been a change in the Cabinet, as it was necessary for GAMBETTA to assume openly the political leadership which he has for some time exercised nameless. In any case, MACMAHON'S resignation is to be regretted, for the Government is not yet settled upon so firm a foundation that it can endure these agitations unharmed.

LUCRETIA MOT.

One of the most prominent examples of the health and long life produced by simple living, the habitual exercise of self-control, and constant intellectual activity, is furnished by LUCRETIA MOTT. She is now 86 years old, and her mind is still alert and vigorous, while she takes the same earnest interest in public affairs that she did half a century ago. Lately she delivered an address before the Pennsylvania Peace Society, and was elected its president by the unanimous vote of its members.

In the history of the anti-Slavery movement the name of Mrs. MOTT is conspicuous. When a very young girl she resolved to use nothing that was a product of slave labor and she persistently carried this into practice. She became a Quaker preacher and a lecturer upon intemperance and slavery and traveled through several States advocating her peculiar ideas. Having been sent to the world's anti-slavery convention in London, in 1840, she was refused membership on account of her sex, and this led her to more decided views upon the woman's right's subject than she had hitherto entertained, and in 1848 she took a prominent part in the first convention of that kind held in this country, her husband being the presiding officer of the meeting Her whole life has been one of constant activity, and she bids fair to reach her one hundredth birth day, with unimpaired faculties, and as enthusiastic in the cause of right as she has been through her whole life.

THE Democratic *Courier*, of Syracuse, N. Y., says that "Mr. POTTER and Gen. BRAGG correctly represent the Northern Democracy. Southern claims should be buried so deep that they will be past all resurrection."

If the young sleigher think he sleighs,
Or the sleighee that she is sleighin',
They know not when will come the days
That will spoil it all with rain.

NORTHERN EXPLORATIONS.

A great deal of interest to the scientific world clusters around the attempted exploration of the coast around the Northern Sea. It has been clearly demonstrated that a knowledge of the vegetable and animal life in those localities, of which little or nothing is now known, would go far towards clearing away the obscurity resting upon the far away times when the immense mammoth and kindred creatures made the earth their home. Northern Siberia and the waters that wash its shores hold the key to many scientific problems, which have added much to the desire of geographical discovery that has incited to so many efforts at explorations in this direction.

Perhaps no one has done more to carry the various expeditions fitted out for these purposes to success than the Swede, Dr. NORDENSKIOLD, who set out in the "Vege" from Tromoso, last July. He had already made several voyages some of them full of disappointments in their results, and others giving a sufficient return in the way of discovery to arouse the Swedes to a determination to see what further enterprise could accomplish. It was in 1870 that meteoric stones were brought back from the coast of Disco by the Doctor, and this led the Swedish Government to send out a vessel the next year to explore those regions. It is believed that great commercial advantage may be secured by the nation who shall be successful in opening the ports of Siberian rivers, and finding a passage through those unknown Northern waters.

The ship "Vega" was fitted up last Summer at an expense of $100,000. It was well prepared for emergencies, and great hopes were entertained by Dr. NORDENSKIELD, himself the leader of the expedition, of what would be accomplished. The "Vega" is now said to be hemmed in by the ice 40 miles from the coast, and unable to move from her position. A Russian sledge party is about to start in search of her, also an American vessel. It is to be hoped that sledges may be able to reach the ship, as in that case it would be possible for the explorations to be continued in that way. Beside the interests to the scientific and commercial world involved, such a spirit of enterprise and determination as has been evinced by the hardy Swedes and their brave leader deserves the highest degree of success.

RUSSIA'S TROUBLES.

Russia seems to be having more than her share of trouble just now. The telegraph brings almost daily news of disturbances within her borders which threaten to grow into a revolution that shall extend through her whole empire. The steps which the Government takes to strengthen itself seems to have an opposite effect in many cases. That causing the difficulty between it and the Russian Colleges may be instanced as in point. The Minister of Public Instruction fancied that the study of the natural sciences had a tendency to encourage free thought among the students, thus unsettling their religious faith and loyalty. Consequently he has taken means to discourage it and substitute the classics. The young men in these institutions have imbibed enough independence to resent this interference, and when the feeling engendered is fanned by Nihilistic influence, it results in the outbreaks reported.

Another trouble is the condition of the serfs. They were freed, but knew no more how to use that freedom than so many children, nor have they yet learned. It is hard for them to regulate their lives by the new order of things, and the consequence is a state of chaos that is deplorable. They are open to the influencies of revolutionists, full of dissatisfaction with present arrangements, and ready to seize upon any pretext for an attempt that seems to promise them better things.

To complicate matters just now the terrible plague comes sweeping down upon the country, and no adequate measures have been taken to prevent its spread. A large proportion of the Russian Doctors perished during the war, and their places have not yet been efficiently supplied. The history of the past shows what may be expected unless the progress of the disease can be checked. From present appearances it seems probable that the other nations of Europe will be obliged to furnish medical assistance to Russia, in order to secure the safety of the countries not yet attacked. Taking all the circumstances into consideration it is not much wonder that the Czar feels that existence is a dreary burden, and that "melancholy marked him for her own."

CHINESE EMBASSY TO RUSSIA.

A day or two ago a telegram stated that the Chinese embassy to Russia had been received there by the Czar with a great deal of ceremony. Few people, perhaps, understand the occasion of the sending of this embassy from China, but it is to settle a question which has caused considerable ill feeling between the two countries, and which briefly is as follows:

The province of Kashgar, which borders upon the Celestial Dominions was long ago partly under the control of the latter, as was nearly the whole of Chinese Turkistan. During the domestic troubles of China, YAKOOB KHAN, of Kashgar, succeeded in making that country, independent, and, at the same time the Russians seized Kuldja and the surrounding districts. The Chinese Government remonstrated and a treaty was entered into binding the Russians to restore the country seized as soon as the former could maintain order.

After the death of YAKOOB KHAN Chinese authority was restored in Kashgar, and the demand was made for the fulfillment of the treaty as peace had returned throughout Turkistan. The Russians refused to give up Kuldja, and made demands for further freedom in the surrounding country. The upshot of the matter was the fortifying of Kuldja and other places by the latter, and preparations upon the part of China for war. The Embassy is a last effort upon the part of that Government to induce Russia to settle the matter peaceably. As the St. Petersburg papers now declare that Kashgar is again in an unsettled and rebellious state, it does not look as if she intended to give up her hold upon the disputed provinces. The only question about her going to war in this case, as in all other of her more recent difficulties, is the present social and political troubles within her borders. Her proceedings in the matter are without a shadow of justice, but she goes upon the principle that might makes right, just as England and the United States did in their demands upon the Chinese Government.

THE Democratic Buffalo *Courier* says that it has no doubt that the real leaders of the South fully agree with BRAGG that in order to get rid of sectional strife and war issues, all Southern claims growing out of the civil war should be rejected.

EFFECT OF OUTLETS UPON THE MISSISSIPPI.

One of the strongest arguments in favor of leveeing the Mississippi river in the opinion of the supporters of the plan, is that brought forward by Mr ELLIS, of Louisiana, in a recent speech before Congress. He says, "wherever an outlet occurs, wherever a crevasse occurs, and the water is diverted from its channel, below that crevasse the river invariably fills up and bars are formed."

This assertion is conclusively proved to be untrue by the working of the Bonnet Carre outlet into Lake Pontchartrain. This was formed a few years ago by a rush of waters, in spite of the levees, and it has reduced the water mark at Vicksburg eight or nine feet, where the rise and fall was 50 feet, and four or five feet at New Orleans, where it was 17 feet. At the same time the velocity of the current below the break is greater than above, and there is an increased velocity of 6 per cent. in the river. It is the opinion of Capt, COWDON, and the engineers who support his view of the subject, that the same result would follow the formation of outlets, and thus prevent the filling up of the river by sand bars, instead of contributing to their formation, as asserted by Mr. ELLIS.

It is easy to understand the theory of the reduction of high water mark and the coincident increased velocity of the current, for while being thoroughly scientific, it is also exceeding simple. Suppose, for instance, that an outlet is made below New Orleans into Lake Borgne, which would, according to Capt. COWDON'S estimate, increase the velocity from 8 to 10 per cent. by a reduction of six feet.

The distance from New Orleans to the mouth of the river is 120 miles, and by the contemplated outlet only six, and the fall in the one case would be as great as in the other. This steep fall, while lowering the flood angle, would render the current much more rapid, and this would operate in the two ways of keeping down the high water mark and in preventing the deposit of sand and debris to choke up the channel.

GLEAMS OF LIGHT.

So much and so harrowing have been the statements in regard to the adulterations of almost every article of food in daily use, that to learn from a source which commands confidence, the fact of the absolutely harmless quality of the greater part of these adulterations is to obtain by those who are nervous upon the subject, real happiness. The Boston *Transcript* gives an account of an interview upon the subject with JAMES F. BABCOCK, Professor of Chemistry in the Boston University, and State Assayer of Liquors a gentleman well and widely known for his scientific acquirements. What he says is in substance as follows:

Many articles of food and drink are adulterated and to an extent that the public have little idea of, but it is their pocket that suffers, and not the health. Most of the materials used are harmless in themselves, and while they may detract from the nutritive qualities of the food in which they are found, they furnish no direct poison to the system. The fears engendered, therefore, concerning the evil effects of eating these articles manipulated by the manufacturer for his own financial benefit, may be dismissed as groundless. At the same time, it is the duty of the government to take all the necessary steps towards preventing such adulterations as it is manifestly dishonest.

One thing the Professor was very emphatic in his condemnation of, and that was the practice of putting arsenic in the coloring matter of wall papers. He said that the testimony of all physicians went to prove its absolutely deleterious effects. Small particles are constantly floating in the atmosphere to be taken into the system of those who inhabit the rooms. It is also frequently found in the fancy papers which are used for the wrapping of confectionery, and is there a real danger. The manufacture of such should be prohibited by law.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

A great deal of discomfort is always experienced by travellers in crossing the Channel from England to France. Persons who have not been troubled by sea sickness in the ten day's voyage across the Atlantic will make the acquaintance of the malady in this short trip, suffering pangs that will make death appear a much-to-be-desired blessing.

The plan of a tunnel under these fierce waters that shall save all of this trouble has met with great approbation. The present condition of things in England is not favorable to its immediate prosecution to completion, so far as that country is concerned. With thousands of her people in a starving condition, her manufactories closed, and her business houses failing day after day, she has her hands full without pushing forward public works involving any great outlay of money. At present the work is going on slowly, although nothing has been done on the tunnel proper. The shaft on the French side has been sunk to the depth of 70 meters, with a diameter of two meters. When they get 10 meters further down, the tunnel itself will be commenced. On the English side things are not going on so well. Operations in St. Margaret's Bay have been abandoned, and a new shaft will be sunk near Dover. The great advantage that this mode of passing from one country to the other is too evident to allow the plan to be given up.

AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION.

At last the distressed working people of England have begun seeking relief where it is best found—in emigration to Australia. If English philanthropy is wise and practical—as it usually is—it will organize means of sending to Australia, New Zealand or South Africa, every person who will consent to go thither. This is the only real means of relief. There is no alternative; the population of England is too dense, it must be thinned out in one way or another, if not by emigration then by famine, and the countless miseries of insufficient means of subsistence. The manufacturing interests of England are permanently prostrated; that is, while there will in all probability be a revival from their present depressed condition, they will never again attain to the flourishing condition of a few years ago, and will continue to decay slowly from decade to decade as those of Asia Minor, Egypt, Greece, Italy and Spain have successively done. The scepter of manufacturing supremacy has passed to America, and will remain here at least for as many centuries as England has held it. This passing away of her manufacturing importance will render her less able, from year to year of supporting her present density of population.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE.

The number for February presents a peculiarly attractive table of contents. Its opening article is by Edward King, and has for its subject "Hungarian Types and Austrian Pictures." It contains nothing particularly new, but it is written in a bright, sketchy manner that makes it easy and pleasant reading. It is illustrated, as is also the second article. "A Gate to the Nether World," in which the author, Prof. F. L. Oswald, gives a graphic description of the great barranca of Jorullo, in Mexico, created by the earthquake of 1759. John R. Tait, the well-known American painter, contributes, under the title of "An Hungarian Artist," a biographical sketch of Munkacsy, the artist, who is rapidly taking rank as one of the best painters in Europe. "The Latter Days of the Biennerhassetts," by Maria P. Woodoridge, is a pathetic history of the blotting out of that famous family, the last member of which, Harmon Biennerhassett, died in the almshouse on Blackwell's Island, N. Y., in 1854. There is a lively sketch of Lord Beaconsfield's career, and a pleasant account of the school at which the "Daughters of the Legion of Honor" are educated; with other short and amusing papers that help to render the number highly readable and attractive.

THE ATLANTIC.

The February number opens with a paper by an anonymous contributor, descriptive of "The Career of a Capitalist." The aim of the article is to show how utterly groundless is the position taken by so-called labor reformers against those who hold the capital of the country, and that a man may have money and use it without being an enemy of the working class. W. W. Story furnishes the first of two papers on "A Roman Holiday Twenty Years Ago," and Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe writes about "The Modern Martyrdom of St. Perpetua," a clever satire on certain fashions in female apparel. Mark Twain has a laughable account of "The Recent Great French Duel" between Gambetta and Fourto. Richard Grant White contributes a remarkably interesting paper on "London Streets," and Richard H. Stoddard some "Reminiscences of Bayard Taylor." Other articles of the number are "Musicians and Musician Lovers," by W. F. Apthorp; "Puritanism and Manners," by F. G. Ireland; "International Copyright by Judicial Decision," by A. G. Sedgwick, etc.

APPLETON'S JOURNAL.

The February issue of Appleton's Journal is a most attractive number, and contains the best current English and American literature in a rare degree. Besides the stories of which there are only two, the present number in question contains a most interesting paper on "The Shakesperean Myth," by Appleton Morgan; a review of "English Literature." by Spencer Walpole; a paper on "The Historical Aspect of the United States" by Dean Stanley, who has just visited this country; a remarkably entertaining article "On Certain Present Phenomena of the Imagination," by Lord Houghton; and a paper on "Some Modern Artists," by Harry Quilter. The editorial departments are timely and well edited.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.

This issue opens with "Treasures of the Deep," an article on the plant and animal life of the ocean, by J. C. Beard, illustrated by 16 woodcuts from drawings by the author, the drawings being by no means less interesting than the text and indeed of remarkable merit. Mr. S. G. W. Benjamin concludes his "Rambles in the South of France," and with the assistance of 20 illustrations describes in this last paper the medieval associations of Southern France, whose work was so important and whose methods were so worthy. Will Carleton contributes a poem called "Our Traveling Parson," which has three illustrations by Abbey. A sketch, with portrait, of the late Rear-Admiral Hiram Paulding, the last surviving officer engaged in the naval fight on Lake Champlain, is given by his son-in-law, Commodore R. W. Meade, U. S. N. "At the Mouth of the Amazon" is one of the illustrated descriptive papers for which *Harper* has been famous for so many years. "Winter Sports in Canada" describes the bracing amusements of a Canadian winter. One of the prominent attractions of the number is 16 pages of "Mendelssohn's Letters to Madame Moscheles," edited by the recipient, accompanied by a "lied," and both now published for the first time.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

Sunday Afternoon for February opens with a story by James T. McKay: it has two others, Paper Roses, by Sarah O. Jewett, author of Deephaven, and one relating to the Japanese custom of blood revenge by Prof. Wm. Elliott Griffis, Calvin the Sinner, has a second instalment.

The essays include A Conventional Conscience by Pres. John Bascom of Wisconsin University: What is Conscience? and Minister's Hobbies, by W. M. F. Round.

Caroline H. Dall, writes of Anna Jameson, with whom she had a personal acquaintance; E. C. Gardner, best known by his popular books on the architecture of homes, gives in the form of a sketch, the reasons why the familiar "Mr. and Mrs. John" did not, or did go to church; and J. B. T. Marsh takes grounds against the Sunday Dailies, as an influence strongly conducive to the "Continental Sunday."

The Littleton Reformers suggests practical means of relief for women from domestic cares. More about Jerry McAuly is given; also a Moody and Sankey sketch; and accounts of Sir Michael Faraday, and of Dr. E. K. Kanes "Hans," the Greenlander, familiar to us from his connection with various Arctic expeditions, and there are poems by Lucrece and others.

The Editor's table has "Where are the Churches," an article on theaters; Notes, and there are book reviews.

SCRIBNER AND ST. NICHOLAS.

The marvelous beauty of the illustrated magazines of this country is attracting attention throughout the world. The edition of *Scribner* in England has doubled within a few months. The London correspondent of the New York *Times* says: "The whole lot of magazine annuals (English) put together, are not equal in pictorial art to a single number of *Scribner's Monthly*." But the price at which our magazines are sold is ever a greater marvel. For example, a single number of *Scribner*, "The Midwinter Number," just issued, has a full page frontispiece portrait of Emerson, of rare excellence, and contains 160 pages of letter-press, with more than 70 illustrations; many of which are works of art such as before the advent of *Scribner* appeared only in gift-works and purely art magazines, and yet it is sold for 25 cents. It would be difficult to find an illustrated book to match it at $5. The subscribers for the current year, 1878, in *Scribner*, not only four of these full paged portraits of American poets, and nearly 2,000 pages of text (equal to 5 000 book pages) of the choicest current literature, with more than 1,000 illustrations, including a completed novel, "Haworth's," by Mrs. Burnett, but shorter stories, poems, reviews, descriptions of travel, biographical sketches, etc., and also the splendid series of papers and pictures of exploration in the great South American empire of Brazil, delivered free of postage, and all for one dollars.

In Children's Periodicals, too, America leads the world with *St. Nicholas*. Prof. Proctor, the astronomer, writes from London: "What a wonderful magazine it is for the young folks! Our children are quite as much delighted with it as American children can be. I will not say they are more delighted, as that may not be possible." *St. Nicholas* is sold for 25 cents a number, and the numbers (November, 1878 to 1880) are given for $3.

At first glance one would say, literature, art, and cheapness can no further go—but in this country intelligence is so widespread, and artistic culture is so extended, that there is scarcely any end to the demand for such magazines as *Scribner's* for grown-ups and *St. Nicholas* for children, and, as the sale of these publications increases their conductors will no doubt continue to add new features of excellence and attraction.

SCRIBNER & Co.
743 Broadway, New York.

WAR CLAIMS.

The Full Text of the Bragg-Ellis Debate.

Both of them Deal Out Large Specimens of Truth.

A Frank Definition of Southern "Loyalty" from a Southerner.

On January 22, 1879, the House of Representatives had under its consideration the bill (H. R. No. 6,119) "for the relief of Maggie Barron and Henry P. and Walter Gorman." The measure proposed to send to the Court of Claims a claim of the heirs of a Mississippian for supplies said to have been furnished to United States troops during the war. During its consideration occurred the Bragg-Ellis debate, of which the Associated Press has given a brief summary. Gen. Bragg is a Wisconsin Democrat, Mr. Ellis a Louisiana Democrat, and Gen. Chalmers a Mississippi Democrat. From pages 14-15-16 of the *Congressional Record* of January 23, 1879, we quote:

Mr. BRAGG—I say to the gentlemen who make such claim that no right exists in any party who lives in an insurrectionary territory, who is part of the people in insurrection against the Government or who are at war against the Government, to make claim against the conqueror after the warshall have ended for anyinjury which may have been done while the war was going on.

The argument goes as well against loyal people as disloyal. The war was not against individuals. The war was against the belligerent party, the South, and the difficulty is, although there may be men, there may be women, there may be children who have claims which we feel ought to be paid, yet when we open the door for the payment of such claims it is impossible for the republic to determine between the good and the bad, and while we are attempting to do what will be a solitary case of good we throw open the door to evil which bids fair, if we take bills introduced into this House as earnest of what is to come, to hasten the hour when bankruptcy shall come upon the Government by reason of the payment of claimants under the guise of loyalty.

Loyalty is a sentiment. There are gentlemen upon this side of the House who served in the Confederate army who can furnish more proofs probably that they were loyal to this Government than we could who fought on the Federal side, because they can prove by witnesses what they fought for and what they sought to maintain was a government upon the principles of our fathers and that we Northern men had seen fit to attempt to tear down the structure that our fathers left us, and they were loyal and we were disloyal. [Laughter.]

Loyalty is a sentiment; and when you undertake to prove by depositions that this man was loyal or that that man was loyal, you can bring up one of his field hands to swear that he heard old massa say when he did not get proper pay for stores that the Confederates had taken for him, or when his son was refused furlough, that he would like to see that Southern Government go down, and that such tyrants as old Bragg, who shot down soldiers for visiting their homes when passing on the march, should not be upheld as representatives of the government. You can prove by that negro how he heard massa say that day he was opposed to the Confederates. Now that is *ex parte* testimony. The affidavits do not cover the whole ground, and it is not in our power to sift such evidence.

Only the other day I heard a gentleman, a member of this House from North Carolina, say he knew of a woman from North Carolina who had proved a large claim in the Court of Commissioners of Southern Claims, and had established her loyalty; while, if they had called upon him, he could have proved to the Court conclusively that she and all her family and friends were heart and soul friends of the Confederacy.

Mr. Waddell (Dem., N. C.)—You may say that of 95 per cent. of the population of the South.

Mr. Bragg—I say it of 99 per cent. And the only recommendation that woman had for her loyalty, and which carried her claim through the Court, was that her brother-in-law was a member of the Convention which nominated a recent President of the United States. [Laughter.]

The gentleman from North Carolina says that 95 per cent. of the people of the South were true to the Confederacy. That recalls to my mind the very eloquent remarks made yesterday by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. Hooker, Dem.) I was astonished that a claim so exceedingly loyal as this should find the gentleman from Mississippi as its champion. When did the Vicksburg district before send a man here who represented the loyal people of that district, who should stand here and sing praise and chant paeans in honor of the loyal southerners. [Laughter.] Ay, when I heard that speech, and saw in my mind's eye the long array of loyal claimants, and thought of their antecedents, I felt like saying to them what the mouse said when it saw the old cat hanging up against the wall: "Oh, you are there, my old friend, are you! You may stay there, for I would not trust you though your skin was stuffed with straw." [Laughter.]

Mr. Chalmers—I would like to say to the gentleman that my colleague (Mr. Hooker) is now out. He kept quiet the other day when my colleague was present. I do not think he should assail him behind his back.

Mr. Bragg—It is not my purpose to assail any man; but if the gentleman says that I say behind his back what I would not say to his face, he mistakes the man whom he calls to order.

I beg pardon of the House if I have improperly alluded to the speech which the gentleman from Mississippi made yesterday in support of this claim; but I have got tired of seeing claims come here in one form, which, when this House expresses its sense upon them, are suddenly diverted into another channel, and of hearing persons talk about judicial examining and making laws fixing the rules of evidence to tie up the court, and then send the matter to accounting officers to determine what the value of the property taken was.

I would like to remind the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Keifer, Rep.,) how he quoted in his famous speech against the William and Mary College the well-known law that no nation is responsible for the torts of its officers or soldiers, for the destruction of property in the course of war in insurrectionary territory; but, as I said, there has been in this House repeatedly a taunt thrown at us, and I regret to say that it comes from Mississippi. We have been taunted with the $34,000,000 in the Treasury that belong to some one unknown or to the Government, as the proceeds of abandoned property, and ought to be distributed in the South. I would ask these gentlemen to take their eyes off from the $34,000,000 for a moment if they want to appreciate how we feel. Let them turn the glass over and look at another view—a sea of blood—thousands and tens of thousands of the best men in the land, North and South, weltering in their gore. Let them hear the cries of the wounded man from the battle-field as the cold chill of death strikes him, and by the cessation of the groan you know that one more soul had gone to his final account. Let them go and hear the pitiless moans from the hospitals: let them go to the hill sides and mountain tops, and to the valleys where thousands and hundreds of thousands are in mourning. Then let them look at what is of the least account in the reckoning, the thousands of millions, the billions of money that were spent to put down this war, and when they place all these on the debtor side of the account, I would like to have them strike the balance—show, if they can, that the $34,000,000 of credit which belongs to somebody, they do not know whom, overcome the entries on the debit side.

I am not willing to sit here as the Representative of my constituents, and allow these measures to be brought up in one form or another; from one member and another: from one Committee and another, for the purpose of getting money out of the Treasury on the plea of loyalty.

These loyal men of the South are so few that the evil that will be done by leaving them out, is nothing in comparison to the great evil that will be done if we open the door and allow the $17,000,000 for claims upon our calendar to be passed and appropriations made for the benefit of men on the ples that they were loyal people of the South.

I have here time and again heard a threat thrown to the Democracy upon this side of the House which I have thought for a long time needed an answer, and it came from Mississippi. I have heard it said here upon the floor of the House that unless the Democracy of the North is more liberal, that unless they would open their hands and give money more lavishly from the Treasury, the solid South would soon go over to the other side.

I say, as one of the representatives of the Democracy of the North, that if there are any men in the South who propose to belong to the Democratic party simply for the reason that the doors of the Treasury are to be opened to them, the sooner they go over the better for them, the better for our party; and when the people of this country see and feel, as they are beginning to do, that they can trust the interests of the country with the Democratic party of the North and South, then we can make recruits in the Northern States that will fill up our ranks to the maximum.

We have no need of that class of gentlemen that we can only hold to party allegiance by golden ties, by giving them the promise of everything which they may ask out of the Treasury.

Mr. Martin—I must now insist upon the previous question.

Mr. Ellis—I ask the gentleman to yield to me for five minutes. Cries of "Yield!" "Yield!"

Mr. Martin—I will yield to the gentleman for that time.

Mr. Ellis—Upon the general features of this bill I do not know that I desire to say anything now. What I am about to say is called forth by that portion of the extraordinary speech of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Bragg) in which he alluded to certain "taunts" made by Southern members in reference to money now in the Treasury collected illegally and unconstitutionally; ay, and he might have well said with the robber's hand. In the course of my speech upon the Mississippi levee bill I did allude to the fact that $85,000,000 were in the Treasury of the United States collected without the semblance of law or justice from the impoverished South.

Now, I agree with the member from Wisconsin (Mr. Bragg) that the percentage of "loyalty" in the Southern States during the war was a great deal less than one per cent. I undertake to say that the Southern man who was born there, who was reared there, and who was identified with the Southern people, could only have been loyal when he entered the Confederate army and did his full duty as a soldier in the armies of the South. Such men were the only loyal men in the South. They were loyal to their God; they were loyal to the noblest and highest and holiest emotions that ever animates the human heart.

Here and there, scattered over the South, there may have been some individual who from his heart and from his conviction did espouse the cause of the Union, but I do not know in all the limits of my acquaintance in my own State more than three or four men who I believe were loyal to the Union in the proper sense and usual acceptation of that term. Before hostilities begun there were in the South thousands and tens of thousands of men who deprecated and deplored the gathering storm and who sought every means to avert war and disunion, but when war came more than 90 per cent. of the men of the South, every man almost worthy the name of man, forgot individual opinion and entered the ranks and fought the battles and suffered the calamities and death of the confederacy. As regards the claims that are forever being urged by "loyal" claimants and known as war claims, let me say that I for one am willing here and now to vote for a constitutional amendment which shall close the books and forever settle the accounts between those loyal men and the Government. I do not stickle for their allowance or urge their payment. Some few of them are just, no doubt, and ought to be paid. I know, personally, of a few cases of this character, but in order to achieve peace, in order to silence the tongue of slander, in order to ease the hearts and minds of the people of the North who are jealous lest some Rebel be paid, I am willing to end all this matter by a constitutional amendment forbidding forever the payment of every claim growing out of the war. In this, at least, am I agreed with the member from Wisconsin.

Now as to the lecture which in questionable taste he has seen fit to read to members of the House, Southern Democrats, I tell him that it comes with rather a bad grace from him. When I alluded to the fact that there were in the Treasury of the United States $85,000,000 illegally and unconstitutionally wrung from the products of the South—products singled out for illegal and unconstitutional taxation, so decided by a decree of our highest court—when I alluded to moneys wrung from Southern States and property by processes which no man dares now vindicate, I did but allude to these facts by way of appeal for justice from the North to the South. We of the South were claiming a mere pittance, in all some $8,000,000, for the improvement of the Mississippi River, in which the gentleman from Wisconsin and the people he represents are interested. I cited the fact, hoping perchance that hearts like the member's from Wisconsin might be a little softened toward a measure we deemed so just.

The people of the South believe that they are as Democratic and as true to the Democratic party as the gentleman from Wisconsin and his constituents. We went to war, it is true; but let the truth be told. It was in obed

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once into the waste basket.

2. Mathematical problems, and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper for the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms, or corporations, doing a general business. The BLADE's endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in distant parts of the country.

D. M M., Perry City, N. Y.: See rules at head of this department.

S. B.: We cannot undertake to recommend the article you name, simply because we know nothing about it personally.

L. F., Hudson, Ind.—The metropolis in question is the City of Washington, which occupies nearly the whole of the District of Columbia.

J. O. S., Laramie City, Wy. Terry: We could give you the information desired if it is worth enough to you to warrant your paying return postage on it.

A. C. W., Uniontown, Kans., asks: "Will the story of 'Andersonville' be published in book or pamphlet form?"—Yes, it will probably be published in book form.

James McCabe, Bathsell, Ill., asks: "Who was the Surgeon in charge of the Jefferson Barracks Hospital, Missouri, in 1862, during the months of July and August? If he is still living what is his present postoffice address?"

J. Warren Frazier, Rural Dale, O., would like to learn the address of Jason L. Finkbone, or his sister, Mrs. Mary Fitchman. They formerly lived near Oskaloosa, Kan. Please send address on postal card to the above named office.

Nixson, Maple Plain, Minn.: Address Forest & Stream, Turf, Field & Farm, and Spirit of the Times, New York City. The first is devoted to shooting and fishing, the two latter more especially to the breeding and training and performance of horses.

O. K., Darwill, Ind., asks: "To settle a dispute will you please tell me through your correspondents column whether white is a color or not, and if not, why not?"—Whites is really a combination of all the colors, and therefore properly a color.

J. H. C., Holbrook, W. Va.: All that we know in regard to the offer you name is contained in the advertisement, which is published and paid for the same as any other advertisement. The offer is not made by us, nor do we assume to guarantee that it will be carried out.

Jesse Ells, Camden Center, Mich., wishes to obtain the address of Dr. William Massil, Assistant Surgeon of the 65th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. When last heard from he was in Grand View, Ill. Any one sending his address on a postal card will confer a favor by so doing.

A. K. S., New Goshen, Ind., writes: "I would like very much to know the address of David Sayre. When last heard from, about 20 years ago, he was in Boston, Bowie County, Texas. Any information concerning his whereabouts by the readers of the BLADE will be thankfully received by his only sister, Ruth Canada."

S. W. H., Mason, Mich.—The list of rebels who are still under political disability is comparatively small; we can hardly undertake to state the exact number. Jeff Davis is still disqualified from holding office under the general government. We believe the other person you name has had his disqualifications removed.

Monroe County, O., writes: "I would be favored very much if you will insert the following mathematical problem in the Correspondents' Department: A board is 20 feet long, 24 inches wide at one end and 12 at the other: how far from either end must it be cut into so that there will be as many square feet in one piece as the another?"

B. F., What Cheer, Iowa., asks: "1. Is the ——— Importing Co. reliable? 2. What is the ——— Publishing Co. of Cincinnati? 3. What part of Kansas would you advise a farmer to go?"—That depends very largely on what kind of farming you want to do. You might try the central or southern part west of Emporia or east of Larned. Better go out there, if you can, before moving, and look around for yourself.

C. N., Rushville, Ill: If you will note our reply to John W. W., Harrisville, Pa., in last week's BLADE, you will see that our rule requires that the price of BLADE and book must be sent at the same time in all cases. This is the only possible way to do business of this kind without confusion and liability to mistakes, and we are obliged to pursue this plan in order to be perfectly fair to all our subscribers.

M. C. H., Vermilion County, Ill., asks: "How many dollars worth of property is exempt from execution in the State of Indiana?"—The latest authority at hand (1877) says: Property, real or personal, to the value of $600, owned and occupied by any resident householder, is exempt from execution for debt incurred since July 4, 1852, mechanics, laborers and venders' liens excepted.

G. E. C., Miles, O., asks: "1. What is the real name of George Eliot? 2. Which of the Lyttons is 'Owen Meredith,' and what other works beside 'Lucille' are from his pen?"—1. Marian C. Evans, afterward Mrs. George H. Lewes. 2. Edward Robert Bulwer Lytton, son of Sir Edward George Bulwer Lytton. He has published several volumes of poems, a dramatic poem entitled "Orval or the Fool of Time," and a prose romance entitled "The Ring of Amasis."

E. L. H., Medina, Kans., wishes to know if some of the many readers of the BLADE can give any information concerning a person named Martin Meritt or Martin Maryatt Love. Think his parents lived in Buffalo, N. Y. He was in Toronto, Can., in 1843; returned to the States the same year, and the writer heard he died in Utica, N. Y., soon after his arrival. Any information respecting M. M. Love or any of his relatives will be thankfully received through the BLADE, or a letter sent to the above address will reach him.

A. B. E., Williamsburg, Pa., asks: What is the "guinea." An English gold coin of twenty one shillings sterling, or about $5.00. The guinea is now no longer coined in England, the sovereign having taken its place. This coin was first so called because the gold of which it is made came from Guinea, coast of Africa, and for the same reason it originally bore the impression of an elephant upon it. It was first coined during the reign of Charles II., in 1664, and was in common use until 1817, when it was formally superseded by the sovereign.

B. W. S., Hutchinson, Kans., asks: "Who were the Janissaries?"—They were a branch of the Turkish army. Originally they were formed of young Christian prisoners who were compelled to embrace Mohammedanism. They were granted special privileges, and for this reason were soon joined by young Turks, and thus the peculiar character of the corps was changed by degrees, until it became a name applied to the household troops, and to all who formed the garrison of Constantinople.

A. G. W., Rich Hill, Mo., asks: "1. My father and brother married sisters; what relation are they to each other, and what kin will their children be to each other? 2. Did Ferdinand de Soto ever wander as far north as Cumberland Gap, Ky.?"—1. They are brothers-in-law and their children are cousins. The father's children are also uncles or aunts of the son's children, and divers other relations exist. 2. Not so far as we are aware.

B. C. W., Sterling, Mich., asks: "What is a wrangler? I see the term used very frequently in speaking of English students."—The name is given at the Cambridge (England) University to those who have attained the first class in the public mathematical honor examinations. These examinations extend over eight days, the pass in the papers of the first three entitling a student to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The word wrangler is derived from the public disputations in which candidates for honors or degrees were, in former times, required to exhibit their powers.

J. M., Shawnee, O., asks: "For what amount is subsidiary silver a legal tender? 2. For how much is the 'dollar of our dads' a legal tender (or the new silver dollar)? 3. Will the U. S. Treasurer redeem any amount less than $50?"—1. Any sum not exceeding five dollars. 2. It is a legal tender in any sum. 3. If you mean to ask if the United States will redeem the standard silver dollar in sums of less than fifty dollars, we answer no. Neither does it redeem greenbacks in sums less than that amount.

B. W. M., Lenox, Iowa., asks: "What is spontaneous combustion?"—As generally under stood, spontaneous combustion is caused by the chemical changes in substances which sometimes develop sufficient heat in them to cause their ignition. This very frequently occurs in the case of rags saturated with certain oils, or covered with varnishes of oil and turpentine, and the greater the quantity of these rags piled together the greater the liability to ignition. The length of time required to produce this result varies and is governed by accidents of location, temperature, atmospheric conditions, etc.

W. H. F., Rochester, Ill., asks: "Is there a place where peaches grow wild? If so, will you please tell where it is, and if they are like we have in this country? 2. Please tell me how large the largest organ was that was at the Centennial. 3. What was the value of the finest diamond necklace that was at the Centennial?"—1. The peach is generally accredited to Persia, though believed by some authorities to have been a native of China at a still earlier day. It grows wild in Turkey, Persia and other parts of Western Asia. 2. If we are not in error the largest organ at the Centennial was exhibited by Messrs. Hook & Hastings, of Boston. They could doubtless give you full particulars. 3. We believe that Tiffany & Co. exhibited a diamond necklace valued at $25,000.

G. F. W., Madison, Wis., asks: "Will you please give a short sketch of Laura Bridgman?"—She was born at Hanover, N. H., in 1829, and is therefore 50 years of age. She became deaf, dumb and blind before she was three years old, from the effect of a fever which nearly proved fatal. The late Dr. Howe took her in hand when she was 10 years old, and succeeded in educating her completely, notwithstanding the strangely discouraging circumstances. Dr. Howe said that at first it was like teaching a clever dog a series of tricks, until at last the truth flashed upon the poor girl that by means of those things which were put beneath her fingers, and of which she learned the design by degrees, she could communicate what was passing in her own mind. This changed her whole being! She is now a skilful teacher of the blind.

S. G., Kossuth, Iowa., asks: "Please give a sketch of Queen Victoria's life, and her maiden name in full? 2. Is there any place in the Bible where it speaks against the marriage of first cousins, and if so, where can I find it?"—1. Victoria Alexandria, Queen of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Empress of India, was born in May, 1819. She was the only child of Edward Duke of Kent (son of George III.) and Maria Louisa Victoria, of Saxe-Coburg, sister of Leopold I. of Belgium. Her family name is Guelph, and her education was directed by the Duchess of Northumberland and Lord Melbourne. On the death of her uncle, William IV., she succeeded to the throne, on the 20th day of June, 1837, and was crowned in June, 1838. In February, 1840, she was married to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, with whom she lived very happily till his death in December, 1861. It would occupy too much space to attempt to give the leading events in her reign, which taken as a whole has been a singularly peaceful and prosperous one.

W. G., Ellisfield, Mich., writes: "In the text of the pension arrears bill which you printed last week, it is stated that section 4,709 of the Revised Statutes is repealed. Will you please give us the substance of that section?"—It provided a limitation clause which reads as follows: "All pensions which have been or which may hereafter be granted in consequence of death occurring from a cause which originated in the service since the 4th day of March, 1861, or in consequence of wounds or injuries received or disease contracted since that date, shall commence from the death or discharge of the person on whose account the claim has been or is hereafter granted, or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pension: provided, the application for such pension has been or is hereafter filed with the Commissioner of Pensions within five years after the right thereto has accrued, otherwise the pension shall commence from the date of filing the last evidence necessary to establish the same."

T. B. L., Rockwell, Iowa., asks: "Will you please inform me through the correspondents' column, just what a person has to do to get a title to a piece of Government land under the timber act? You printed instructions not long since, but I am told the law has been changed."—The law has not been changed since the act of June 14th last, and the amended act was given in full in the columns of this department shortly after date. The law as it now stands provides that any one who is the head of a family or 21 years of age and is a citizen of the United States, or has declared his intention to become such, who shall plant, protect and keep in a growing condition for eight years ten acres of timber on any quarter section of any of the public lands of the United States, or five acres on any legal subdivision of eighty acres, or two and one-half acres on any legal subdivision of forty acres or less, shall be entitled to a patent for the whole of said quarter section, or of such legal subdivision of eighty or forty acres or fractional subdivision of less than forty acres, as the case may be, at the expiration of said eight years, on making proof of such fact by not less than two credible witnesses, and a full compliance with the further conditions as provided in section two: *Provided further*, that not more than one-quarter of any section shall be thus granted, and that no person shall make no more than one entry under the provisions of this act.

H. S. M., Pontiac, Mich., asks: "Since you have given the law recently passed in regard to arrears of pensions, I would be greatly obliged if you would give the method to be employed in collecting such arrears."—A circular has just been issued from the office of J. A. Bentley, Commissioner of Pensions, in regard to this subject. We reproduce it here entire, as a matter of general interest to many of our readers:

Persons who are entitled to arrears of pension, under the act granting arrears, approved January 25, 1879, and whose pensions were granted previous to that date, will not require the assistance of a claim agent in obtaining the amount due them. All correspondence in relation to any claim for such arrears, will be with the person entitled, and no claim agent will be recognized in such claim. A letter addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions, signed by the person who was in receipt of the pension at the date aforesaid, and two witnesses, in the presence of a Magistrate, will be the only application required, and upon which the rights of all parties concerned will be adjusted. The pension certificate should not be sent to this office, but it must be exhibited to the Magistrate. The letter should be in the following form:

To the Commissioner of Pensions:

I, ———, a pensioner under pension certificate No. ——, hereby apply for the amount due under the act to set grant arrears of pension, approved January 25, 1879. My Post-office address is ——— (here insert the name of the Post-office, and if the claimant resides in a City, the name and number of the street and residence must also be given.)

(Name of claimant.)

(Two witnesses.)

STATE OF ——— COUNTY OF ———, ss:

Signed in my presence by ———, who is known to me to be the person he describes himself to be, and at the same time he exhibited to me the pension certificate, which is numbered ——. (Magistrate's signature.)

B. W., Adrian, Mich., asks: "Will you please give an explanation of what is meant by Mardi Gras as celebrated in France and the South?"—Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday") is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, which begins the Lenten fast. In Paris it has been celebrated for centuries by the procession of the "bœuf gras" (fat ox), when the Government prize ox, covered with tapestry and crowned with laurel, is led through the streets, preceded by music and followed by a procession of fantastically-dressed butchers. In this country, Mardi Gras is celebrated in Mobile and much more magnificently in New Orleans, where the custom was introduced by the French creole population as long ago as 1827, and for several years the celebration was confined to that class of citizens. Of late years, however, its celebration (interrupted during the war) has become so general that it is now a legal holiday in Louisiana. One of the distinctive features is the "bœuf gras" procession; but an elaborate organization, headed by the King of Carnival, virtually takes possession of the City for the day and parades the principal streets with a long and splendid pageant. At night "The Mystick Krewe of Comus," organized in 1857, presents, on immense brilliantly illuminated floats drawn through the streets, a series of tableaus, and the whole winds up with a ball in one of the theaters or at the opera house. It is an exciting, extravagant, exhilarating, and, it may be added, expensive celebration for those who take immediate part in it.

Moses, New Franklin, O., writes: My friend from Mannville, N. Y., asks whether I know of any rule in arithmetic for solving the following problem: Required, the distance from the stump that a tree 120 feet high must break off that the top may touch the ground 50 feet from the stump. The following rule which I send is not found in the arithmetic in general, and I have given it at different times to several arithmeticians who have applied for it. It is of my own construction by means of algebra: First let me say, that the above above problem reduces to this: Given, a right angle triangle, B and the sum of H and P, to find H and P separately. For the sake of brevity, I shall use B for base, P for perpendicular, and H for hypothenuse. I give the rule, as follows: From the square of the given sum of H and P, subtract the square of the given B, and divide the remainder by twice the given sum of H and P; the result will be P. To find H, subtract P from the sum of H and P. This rule will also give B when P and the sum of H and B are given. But when H and sum of B and P are given to find B and P separate, then another rule is used. In a few weeks I shall send a problem to come under the last case: also one in which to find B and P when they are equal, and H is given. Let us now apply our rule to the given problem. The distance, 50 feet, from the stump to where top of tree touches may be called B, and the hight of the tree, 120 feet, the sum of H and P. The square of the given sum of H and P is 14 400; the square of the given B is 2,500, and 11,900 is the difference: twice the sum of H and P is 240; and 11,900 divided by 240 gives about 49½ feet, which is P, or height of stump, and 120 minus 49½ equals 70½ feet, which is H, or piece of tree broken over.

FELTED WITH NOVELS.

Lord Lytton's Domestic Infelicity—An Old Story Retold.

Lord Lytton's married life, like that of several of his illustrious compeers in literature, says the London *Herald*, was rendered unhappy by the disturbing influence which is prettily termed the incompatibility of husband and wife in every case where the parties are of high station. He was married in 1827, when his literary life had just been tinted with the first flush of appreciation. She whom he selected for a wife was also known in literature. The interest excited by the union of two such gifted persons was much enhanced by a morbid sentiment, caused by the knowledge extant that both of them were in delicate health. The description of them written at the time by "L. E. L." (Letitia E. Landon) increased this sentiment. Lord Lytton was described as 'pale and fascinating," and the bride was depicted as surpassingly lovely. And there came to many who read this an entrancing vision of two beautiful beings gliding through life, reluctant to leave the light of each other's presence, and made almost unaware of the approach of death by the love that possessed them. But as time passed and the weak couple grew in strength, the popular interest in them, except as author and authoress, departed, and was only revived by the story of their separation. Sir Edward had lost his "pale and fascinating" appearance, and the tender tints on Lady Lytton's cheeks, that had been described at her marriage as "like rose leaves on ivory," had spread over her whole countenance and given her the florid complexion of a healthy matron, when, in 1836, that event was announced. The attention that was thus called to the life of the intellectual couple was short-lived. Lord Lytton settled on his wife an annuity of £400, and she retired to privacy, while he continued to tread the slippery way of politics. Soon Lady Lytton found that her expenses could not be met with her income, and as her husband advanced in worldly prosperity, she began to utter complaints, to which he gave no attention. Becoming angered at this indifference toward what she deemed her sufferings, she began to use her pen against him publicly, and she issued several novels and pamphlets, wherein he was depicted in any but pleasing colors. This course was continued for years, but its lack of effect toward her desired object urged her to adopt different tactics. In the Spring of 1858 Lord Lytton became a Cabinet Minister, and his seat in Parliament for Hertfordshire being vacant, it was necessary for him, in accordance with custom, to meet his constituents there in order to be rechosen. Lady Lytton, then residing in Taunton, Somerset, hearing of his intentions, determined to confront him before his supporters, charge him with cruelty to her, and thus defeat his re-election. She circulated handbills announcing her intention, and thus gave his friends an opportunity to defeat Sir Bulwer in it. She arrived Hertford early on the morning of the election. Having asked at what time the hustings would take place, she was told at 12 o'clock, when the proper time was 11 o'clock. This misinformation was given her by her husband's friends, who wished to avoid a scandal, consequently her ladyship did not reach the hustings till the election was over, and Lord Lytton was just closing his speech with a fervent tribute of admiration to the womanly beauty exhibited in the carriages about the stand. Advancing towards him she caught his lordship's eye. He immediately left his station and went to the house of a friend. As he disappeared she cried out "Coward," and turning to the people, for fifteen minutes rehearsed her sufferings on account of his action. The circumstance was unpleasant in its consequences to herself. It engendered a belief that she had become insane, and so, shortly after the incident, she was conveyed to a private asylum for the insane at the instance of her husband, acting under the advice of physicians. It may be that Lord Lytton was deceived by those doctors as to the state of her ladyship's mind. It was charitable to believe that he was so deceived, and, as he acted almost entirely under the direction of his solicitor, there is some basis for the belief. The incarceration of the lady excited much indignation among her friends in Taunton, who were sure of her sanity, and a great degree of interest throughout the kingdom. An investigation of her mental state was immediately made, and, having been pronounced perfectly sane, she was allowed to reside with her son.

Sins of the Fathers Maintained by the Sons.

Springfield Republican.

One of the customs of our fathers was the habit of going to sleep during church service, and various and singular were the expedients adopted by the minister and the deacons to keep them awake. Here is an account of a funny scene in a Lynn, Mass., church in 1646, during the preaching of good old Rev. Samuel Whitney, DD. It is taken from Oradiah Turner's journal:

"1646, June ye 3d: Allen Brpdges bath been chose to wake ye sleepers in meeting, and being much proud of his place must needs have a fox tsile fixed to ye end of a long staff, wherewith he may brush ye faces of those yt will have naps in time of discourse. Likewise a sharp thorne wherewith he may prick such as be most sounde. On ye laste Lord His day, as he strutted about ye meeting house, he did spy Mr. Tomlins sleeping with much comforte, his head kept steadie by being in ye corner and his hand grasping ye rail. And soe spying, Allen did quickly thrust his staff behind Dame Ballond and give him a grievous prick on ye hand. Whereupon Mr. Tomlins did spring up much above ye floor, and with terrible force strike his hand against ye wall, and also, to ye great wonder of all, prophainlie exclaim in a loud voice, 'Cuss the woodchuck,' he dreaming, as it seemed, yt a woodchuck had seized and bit his hand. But on comeing to know where he was, and ye great scandal he had committed, he seemed much abashed but did not speake. And I thinke he will not soone againe go to sleepe in meeting. Ye women may sometimes sleepe and none know it for reason of their enormous bonnets Mr. Whitney doth pleasantli say it from ye pulpit he doth seem to be preaching to stacks of straw with men jotting here and there among them."

The Sunday School.

The Way of the Righteous.

LESSON 7, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1879

GOLDEN TEXT.—But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.—Prov. 4: 18.

LESSON TEXT.

[Psa. 1: 1-6]

1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4. The ungodly are not so; but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

That walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly—(v. 1.)—If a man doesn't walk in the counsel of the ungodly, he cannot go with the crowd. Popular counsel is ungodly counsel. "Common honesty" is dishonesty. The world is controlled by the ungodly; and the world says that a man must be up to the tricks of trade if he is in trade;" that "there's no use trying to get on in life, if you are too particular;" "that "a man ought to enjoy himself—whether or no." More persons are ready to give ungodly counsel than are ready to give any other. From the time a boy hears any outside counsel he hears ungodly counsel. It takes a great deal of courage and a great deal of character to resist the counsel of the ungodly; and to walk in any other way than the popular way—which is the way of the ungodly. He who has the blessing from not walking in that way, has got to fight for it.

Nor standeth in the way of sinners. How easy it is to stop, "just for a minute," and look at some lust-provoking photographs in a show window; or watch a street fight; or listen to a profane or an obscene jest; or chat with an evil-doer on a plane of conversation quite below a proper level. Even one who would not deliberately walk in ungodly counsel, will sometimes stand in the way of sinners. It is this standing at the street corners, or at the low news stands, or in the theater vestibules, or at the grog shop doorways, that is the beginning of ruin to so many of our youths. Move on, boys! don't stop to talk, or to listen, or to look, where evil has sway. Don't stand for a minute in the way of sinners.

Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. The seats of the scornful are to be found almost every where. They are stuck around in the medical schools, in lawyers' offices, in the college dormitories, in the editorial offices, in the social club rooms, in the country stores, or in the church horse sheds—to be occupied between meetings. The less a man knows, the more he is to take one of these seats; and the better he fills it. Blessed is the man who keeps clear of it.

His delight is in the law of the Lord (v. 2)—It is one thing to submit to God's law; it is quite another to delight in it. A great many more realize that God reigns, than rejoice in the fact. But the child of God is glad in the rule of God; glad that God is sovereign; glad that God's commandments are just what they are: glad that it is wrong to do wrong; glad that happiness is to be found only in God's service, and that the way of the transgressor is hard. It is a blessed thing to be so identified with God—so one with him in Christ—as to delight in his power, his plans, and his law. Is that your way of looking at God's government?

In his law doth he meditate day and night.—God's word is worth thinking about. Its full benefits are not to be gained by a single reading. What has been read should be thought over by day and by night. In this way its meaning will grow, and its beauties will multiply. No one really knows what is in Bible from merely reading and hearing it. Only through its study—its thoughtful, prayerful, systematic, continued study—can it be understood in its depth and richness and power. He who knows most about the Bible, and who loves it most, is he who meditates on its precepts and promises, who thinks over its teachings, and who considers its wonderfulness, week days and Sunday, by day and by night.

Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper—(v. 3.)—There is no failure to a child of God. He cannot fail. Nothing that he does—as a child of God—can fail of complete success. His prosperity is unvarying. He is in God's service, ready to do or endure, at the call of God. He has no plans of his own—except in submission to the will of God. Whatever God orders is right; it is best; it tends to good; it is in the line of prosperity; it will finally be rejoiced over. There are no reverses, no causes of discouragement, no defeats to the soldier of Christ so long as he keeps in the line led by the captain of his salvation. Every step is toward assured victory. It is only when the failure out of line, when he attempts something which God has forbidden, or which God has not directed, that he fails of success. In God's service, "whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

But the way of the ungodly shall perish—(v. 6.)—There is only one highway of prosperity in the universe, and that leads heavenward. The tide of destruction is sure, sooner or later, to sweep over every other pathway. Only he who walks in the way where Christ leads can have ultimate success. No matter what business he is in; no matter what are his methods of business; no matter what is his course of daily living; no matter what is his family, or who are his friends, if he is not a child of God and a follower of Jesus his way shall perish: his best laid plans shall miscarry: his business shall prove a failure. Are you in God's way? If so, you are in the way of safety and of success. If you are not, there is no hope for you; only disappointment awaits you.—*H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.*

The Friendly Sea Gull.

A pretty story is told by the Wilmington *Star*, which vouches for its strict accuracy. During the prevalence of the severe storm of the 12th of September last, after the darkness of night had set in, one of the seamen on board of the lightship off Fryingpan shoals, saw a large black bird flash through the blinding mist and light upon the railing near where he was standing. He took the bird, which proved to be an ordinary sea gull, all wet and drabbled by the storm, and warmed and dried it in his bosom, after which he placed it in a bed improvised for the occasion, after first feeding it as if it had been a little child. The next morning, the storm having subsided, our seaman turned the bird loose, of course with no expectation of ever seeing it again Very much to his surprise, however, on the very next night, about the same hour of its previous visit, the gull again put in its appearance, alighting upon the rails of the ship as before, when it was fed, caressed and cared for as on the occasion of its first call; and from that time up to the 9th of November, nearly two months, when the last information was received from the ship, the bird had continued its nightly visits and had been regularly fed and consigned to its "little bed," where it would remain until released the next morning.

The New Turkish Grand Vizier.

London World.

The following account of the new Grand Vizier is given by a countryman of his, Osman Bey. In 1835 three small children, born in Caucasus, were crouching in a corner of the slave market of Tap-Kahn. The purveyors to the serraglio and some Tunisian purchasers began bargaining with the slave dealer, the result being that the former bought two of the boys and the Tunisian took one. This was Kheredine, now Grand Vizier. The Bey of Tunis sent him to France to complete his education. Instead of losing time, he worked with such zeal that on his return to Tunis he became one of the principal persons at Court. Promoted to be a Minister, he became the successor of his father-in-law, Kaznedar Mustapha. The name Kheredine (the delight of religion) is for the Turks a talisman of good omen. It recalls the memory of Kheredine Barbarossa, the famous corsair, who was the terror of the Mediterranean, and whose tomb at Bechiktach is much frequented by pilgrims.

PITH AND POINT.

A Western woman has lost two husbands by lightning. She ought to marry a conductor.—*N. Y. Star.*

The vulgar word "hash" is not heard in Boston. That article is alluded to as a culinary symposium.—*C. Tribune.*

It is reported that a lady applied the other morning at the box-office of a theater for "preserved seats for two."

Whisht, b'ys! d'ye moind this: A Baltimore *Sun* correspondent writes home that he is "sure Venus was from Dublin."

The phonograph is like the small brother of a young lady. It will repeat everything said in its presence without regard to blushes.

If S-i-o-u-x spells sue and e-y-e spells i, and s-i-g-h-e-d spell side, why don't S-i-o-u-x-e-y-e-s-i-g-h-e-d spell suicide?—*Camden Post.*

A Western lawyer included in his bill against his client: "To waking up in the night and thinking about your case, $5."—*Norristown Herald.*

"O, Lord," a Kentucky minister prayed, "thou hast seen by the morning papers how the Sabbath was desecrated yesterday."—*N. Y. Sun.*

Johnny made such a fuss when his mother undertook to trim his nails that she threatened to claw-reform him to keep him quiet.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

Yes, the Winter is here, ha, ha! he, he!
And we've laid in a big jar of butter;
And while you slip on the icy walks,
We'll sail swiftly by in a cutter.
—*Detroit Free Press.*

They had a stuttering man on the witness stand in Kansas City the other day, and after a lapse of 28 minutes he had only got as far as, 'D-d-d-damfino." —*Free Press.*

A book once owned by Martin Luther and containing MS notes made by his hand is owned in Maine. It is a Latin translation of Solomon's Song, with a preface and notes by Luther.

The following explanation of a legal term is offered by a Teutonic member of the Canton Police force: "You I git me a habeas scorpious I can clust as well catch a man where he ain't as where he is."

Dyspepsia, says the medical man of the Boston *Courier*, has no more popular ambush than the fried oyster. But when dispepsia really desires to enjoy itself it chooses it.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

According to the Boston *Post*, the full name of the Sweet Singer of Michigan is Julia Annie Moore. "But this is no sign that she won't write Annie Moore poetry."—*N. Y. Express.*

Weep, stranger, for a father spilled
From a stage coach, and thereby killed.
His name was George Sites, a maker of sacenegers
Slain with three outside passengers.
—*Oil Epithets.*

"Hang that gate!" yelled old Hickory, as he scraped his shins against it in the dark. And after supper he went out and hung it.—*Hackensack Republican.*

Either kerosene has reformed or servant girls have become sensible, as we seldom hear of the in-a-hurry-to-light-the-fire explosion tragedy now.—*N. Y. Mail.*

"Thou rainest in this bosom," said a poor, shelterless, ragged tramp, as he looked up at the grim, gray clouds pouring their pitiless showers down upon him.

The Cincinnati *Saturday Night* has an article on "Mumps," but the Utica *Observer* finds fault with it for neglecting to add that it is to be continued in our necks.

What the country needs now among women is not so much a hand that can bring ravishing strains from a grand piano, as one that can spank a baby *con expresssione.*—*New York Sun.*

Baltimore has built a City hall for less than the estimate, and has a fire department that cost last year $10,000 less than the appropriation. This thing must be stopped.—*Boston Post.*

"There iz lots ov folks in this world who, rather than not find anny fault at all, wouldn't hesitate tew say tow an angel-worm that hiz tail wuz altogether too long for the rest of his body."

The dairy-maid pensively milked the goat
And pouting, she paused to mutter—
"I wish, you brute, you would turn to milk,"
And the animal turned to butt her.
—*Oshosh Advocate.*

"You will often find as true friends in rags as in silks and broadcloths," said a thief, when he got a quarter out of a tramp's pocket, after failing to find anything in that of a nobby young man.

There isn't much difference between an old Roman soldier and cannibal who has just dined on a nice young female missionary, for the former was a gladiator and the latter is glad-he ate-her, too.

This Winter has been hard on the Florida alligator. Little darkey boys havn't hung their feet over the river banks on account of the cold water, and their mothers havn't had a good swim since November.—*Free Press.*

When a reporter wrote in an obituary: "His foot slipped and he was hurled into eternity with great suffering," and the typo made it: "Hurled into suffering eternity," many explanations were necessary to friends of the deceased.—*Rochester Express.*

"What," asks a ladies' paper, "what won't a young man do for the woman he devotedly loves?" If he is a proud young man he will neither wear a pair of trowsers that bag at the knees nor a stove pipe hat of the style of three Winters ago.—*Norr. Her.*

A little boy asked his mother if fish were not thieves. She told him she thought not, and wanted to know why he asked the question, to which he responded, "Well, ma, I thought they must be because it is so common to see a fish on the hook."

Adolphus—"Angelina, why ith a man cutting wood like melting thnow?" Angelina—"I can't tell, Dolly. Tell me, dear." Adolphus—"Becauth he'th thawing." This terrible strain on Adolphus's brain receives its fitting recompense. Thugary thweetheath.

Paddy is a man who visits the office occasionally to sell sandwiches. One day, while he was present, a pair of scissors was missed. "Ah, surrah, says Pat, slyly, "how can yez wroite a newspaper widdout scissors?"—*N. Y. Com. Advertiser.*

There is nothing so monotonous as a miners' strike. A few days ago some of the Illinois miners struck for three cents a bushel, and the strike had been sustained for three days before the strikers learned they had been getting four cents right along. Then they immediately struck for five.—*Hawkeye.*

Two gentlemen, noted for their fondness of exaggeration, were stating how they fared at their different hotels. One observed that at his hotel he had tea so strong it was necessary to confine it in an iron vessel. "At mine," said the other, "it is made so weak it has not the strength to run out of the teapot."

A new Baptist convert wished very much to be baptized by one minister and to join the church of another. She went to the first and asked him if it could be done. "Yes," he replied, "I could do it, but I don't take in washing."—*Boston Globe.*

An anecdote is told of a judge, prone and irritable, who never let a meal pass without an sonorous invocation upon the repast. Once he rebuked a deaf guest who innocently interrupted him while thus engaged, as follows: "D——n it, don't you see that I am saying grace?"—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

"Sinecure!" exclaimed Smythekin's maiden aunt, the other day; "now I wonder what a sign cure is, and what kind of a sign do they cure you with? If it's any better than water-cure or Dr. Mesmtheler's He-hicks-her vity, I'll get a bottle—that is, if it don't cost more than 50 cents."—*New York Mail.*

This is the sort of thing we are compelled to suffer from outsiders who think they could make this column shimmer with 32-carat luster, viz.: "What is the difference between a male citizen of the Irish City that refused to give Gen. Grant a reception and a small tea box full of sausage?" Ans.—"One is a Paddy of Cork and the other is a caddy of pork." [Patent applied for.]—*Norr. Her.*

The Kenyon *Advance* says: A professor who had been trying for a half hour to explain a formula on the board turns with his finger on his nose, which is a very prominent feature, and says severely: "Is this now apparent to you all? [Freshmen grin.] I am aware, gentlemen, that it is long. [Freshmen grin audibly.] But I hope you see the point. [Slight pedal applause.] It is called pons asinorum, or which, I hope, you see the application." [Loud and continued applause.]

THE YOSEMITE VALLEY.

Deep down in the grand old mountains,
Far away in the purple West,
It sleeps, the wonderful valley,
As if taking an endless rest.

In the passionate bloom of Summer,
In the glow of the golden sun,
It wakes into brilliant beauty,
As if life had just begun.

There are high Z and depths unmeasured,
A grandeur and glory untold,
In this mystical magical valley,
Whose wonders no words can unfold.

Away from the world of struggles,
In this heart of the mighty hills,
A river flows on forever,
And the air with its music thrills.

There's a sound of murmuring waters,
And a silvery mist that falls,
Trolling a garment of glory
Far over those wonderful walls.

THE WORM THAT WORKS.

How Silk Culture Could be Stimulated into a Great Industry.

New York World.

A *World* reporter two weeks ago found on board of one of the French steamers an Italian gentleman who was taking abroad myriads of silk-worm eggs, and he interviewed this gentleman upon the subject of the silk industry. Yesterday a reporter of the Washington *Post* held an interesting conversation in the Agricultural Department with Prof. Riley, who last Summer read in St. Louis, before the National Science Association, an interesting paper on silk culture, which the *World* at the time fully referred to. Said the reporter to the Professor:

"Do you really think silk culture will be a permanent and lucrative industry in this country?"

"There is no doubt of it. Large sections of our country possess a soil and climate as well adapted to silk culture as those of China."

"Which sections?"

"More particularly the Southern States, many portions of the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific slope."

"But their food? I thought—I am pretty sure that the public think that the silk-worm lives on mulberry leaves."

"The silk-worm of China does, but there are as many breeds of the silk-worm as of the domestic dog, and some of them take very kindly to osage orange. This is an advantage, as it is used for hedges in localities where the worm thrives. I have silk from osage orange-fed silk-worms, equal in quality and quantity to that from the mulberry. In some localities, by covering a hedge with a net to keep off the early bird, the worms might thrive in the open air. In the climate of Utah, for instance, this might be done.

"Does silk culture yield large profits? Millions in it?"

"When carried on in a large way, the principal profits, as in most other industries, accrue to the middlemen, reelers and manufacturers, but on a small scale the return for time and labor is satisfactory. Nine-tenths of all the silk in Europe is the product of separate households."

Some glass jars of silk stood on the desk. It was in small twisted hanks, ready for the loom, and in two colors, a solid gold and creamy white.

"You spoke in your paper at St. Louis of this industry as being specially adapted to women."

"Yes, because it requires a small investment of money, and can be carried on with the other labors of the household. It would be quite practicable, especially in our Southern States, for women and children to add something to the family income, and it would prove a new source of national wealth. To make it a permanent industry, reeling establishments must be erected."

"Could I—could I see some of the worms? I should like to see some of the worms spinning," said the reporter with enthusiasm.

Prof. Riley smiled. No wonder. To the scientist and the specialist the popular ignorance must be simply dense. The reporter had never before encountered this serene smile of science, and was crushed to earth. Like truth, he rose again when Prof. Riley kindly handed over some treatises on the natural history, personal habits and moral character of the silk worm, from which is deduced the following diagnosis: The silk-worm is one of the three domesticated insects most useful to man. The other members of this triumvirate are the cochineal and the honey bee. The original silk-worm is a "heathen Chinee." But it has the instincts of your true cosmopolite, and wherever properly fed, flourishes. The silk-worm family of moths are gorgeous insects, got up regardless of color and triumphs of decorative art. The moth puts on lots of style. But handsome is as handsome does. The worm does the work. The worm earns the money. The eggs should be hatched in the spring as soon as the mulberry leaves are fit to eat. When they are not wanted they can be ind

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE COMPANY,
PROPRIETORS.

TOLEDO O., THURSDAY, FEB. 6 1879.

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THE BLADE,
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SEND FOR A CATALOGUE.

We are unable, owing to the great demand for them, to send out the supplements containing our book catalogue as often as we should like. At the same time, we are always glad to supply them free on application, and we trust that our new subscribers who have not as yet received a copy will send us a postal card, when they will receive our catalogue by return mail.

To open the door to the war claims would be to make perjury and swindling National.

WHEN GAMBETTA cooked the Imperialists' goose he served it with GREVY.

MCMAHON'S trouble was that he thought he succeeded an Emperor, instead of a President.

THE election of LOGAN, CAMERON, CUSHING, and CARPENTER helps the Grant movement to boom.

SITTING BULL comes back to this country with his "spirit broken." Frontiersmen would be safer if it were his neck.

THE Committee got about as much information out of WHITELAW REID as they would have obtained from a single column of the *Tribune*.

THERE will, likely, not be any change in the patent law this session. A man can now buy the latest improvement in potato parers without having a fear that the price will suddenly drop on him.

WE ask as a special favor that our readers will send us, by postal card or otherwise, the names of all persons in their vicinity whom they know to have been formerly subscribers to the BLADE but who are not now receiving it. We have something of *especial interest* to say to all such persons, and shall be glad to have their names and addresses.

THE article on grazing and stock-raising in Wyoming Territory contains facts and figures which will prove of especial value to all who contemplate that branch of business. The figures given are late and reliable, and the methods pursued in Wyoming are substantially the same as those of other grazing States and Territories. Save it for future reference.

SEN. FERRY'S bill to establish a National militia is one which, if properly framed, may be considered a step in the right direction. Every encouragement should be given to the development of well-organized and efficient militia, but the encouragement should come through the State authorities and not from the general Government. The Government's share in the militia organization—in times of peace—should be confined to furnishing it with arms and military stores, and detailing for it such instructors as the Governors of the States may express a wish for. More than this might lead to dangerous centralization.

SENATOR CHRISTIANCY'S health has been failing for some time, and his physicians have earnestly recommended him to try some warmer—even tropical—climate. Last Summer he was an applicant for the Mexican mission, but it was not thought desirable to recall Minister FOSTER while matters there were in such an unsettled condition. About four weeks ago an application was made by the Michigan delegation, in Judge CHRISTIANCY'S behalf, for any foreign appointment of a dignity befitting his political and judicial position. There was some talk of the Berlin Mission for him, but this was given up because of his dislike to the grandeur and ceremony involved in a residence at the German Court. At Lima life is simpler and quieter, and the salary of the Minister is $10,000 a year.

WE sold last year $201,542,571 more than we bought. In 1877 we sold $140,-062,112 more than we bought. In other words, we gathered to ourselves in two years over 341 millions of the accumulated wealth of other lands. Could this rate of increase be continued it would not be many years until we had a preponderance of the wealth of the world. But it can not. We have been receiving the surplus—the floating capital—of Europe in exchange for our products. It is likely that we cannot draw down on this much further, as they over there can not spare much more ready money, no matter how much they may want bread and meat. While it is likely that we shall continue to send great quantities of produce abroad, our main efforts should be directed to the upbuilding of home consumption by the development of our manufactures.

POTTER'S SCRAPE.

I.

Whene'er with haggard eyes I view,
SAM TILDEN'S wicked plot again,
I want to curse till all turns blue,
To think upon th' infernal stew
—pid scrape that they have got me in—
—pid scrape that they have got me in.

II.

Sweet AGNES, lovely JENKSIE, who
My every scheme came trotting in—
I little thought that you could do
So much to help along the stew
—pid scrape that they have got me in—
—pid scrape that they have got me in.

III.

And TILDEN, too, the selfish screw,
Whose veins the blood is clotting in,
His ever reaching plots will brew
Regardless of the very stew
—pid scrape that they have got me in—
—pid scrape that they have got me in.

WITH this issue we complete the story of the "Great Mogul Diamond," and give a second installment of a story of a different character, designed especially for housekeepers entitled "Hints and Helps." We have already made partial arrangements for another new story for the BLADE, which will be one of rare interest and ability, and of which we will have more to say again.

CURRENT EVENTS.

In Washington last week the discussions on the Southern war claims and on the subject of the New York customs nominations, were the absorbing political topics. The speeches of Senator HILL and Representative BRAGG in open opposition to the payment of Southern claims have been producing a decided effect in their own party. Aside from the abstract question of justice, the party managers among the Democrats are beginning to see that any thing looking like concerted action toward the payment of Southern claims means political suicide in 1880. Intelligent Democrats are having their eyes opened to the fact that the North is irrevocably opposed to the payment of these claims, and that their only possible chance for success in the coming Presidential campaign rests in their carrying certain Northern States. The highly successful plan of conducting elections as practiced in the South last Fall, will secure the Southern States, regardless of any action on the claims question.

The nominations of E. A. MERRITT, as Collector of Customs, and S.W. BURT to be Naval Officer of the port of New York, came up in the Senate on Friday of last week. They were considered in executive session, and after the reading of the President's Message, and the letter of Secretary SHERMAN, Mr. CONKLING asked that the Senate proceed at once to pass upon them. Sen. MATTHEWS offered a resolution to print the papers in the case, and postpone consideration till Monday, which resolution was adopted by a vote of 35 to 26. On Monday, when nominations came up again, a lengthy discussion took place in executive session, in which CONKLING made a speech of an hour's length, taking the ground that the charges had been thoroughly refuted. A motion to recommit having been put and lost, a vote was taken on the question of the confirmation of Gen. MERRITT, which resulted, yeas, 33, nays 24; so the nomination was confirmed. The nomination of Mr. BURT as Naval Officer was confirmed without debate. An analysis of the vote, and of pairs on Gen. MERRITT'S nomination, shows that 27 Democrats and 13 Republicans favored the confirmation, and 23 Republicans and 7 Democrats were opposed to it.

The Potter Committee is still at work in getting ready to investigate the cipher dispatches, but they show considerable skill thus far in avoiding the dispatches themselves. As is well said by "Buckeye," in his letter of this week the main concern seems to be not so much to find out what the cipher dispatches meant as to discover how they were obtained. The committee in secret session on Tuesday substituted HUNTON and REED for MCMAHON and COX as members of the sub committee to take testimony in New York.

THE reluctance of prominent Democrats to being made the means for uncovering TILDEN'S rascality is evidence that the party is not quite ready to make a scapegoat of that gentleman. First, POTTER manuvers so that a sub-committee shall be sent to New York to examine TILDEN, instead of TILDEN being brought to Washington, as in the latter case he would have to be examined before the full Committee, and the examination conducted by POTTER as Chairman. It is not so difficult to understand POTTER'S disinclination to the task. He lives in a very close District, and to antagonize the Tilden interest would be to commit political suicide. But now comes MCMAHON, of Ohio, who shows a similar reluctance—by positively declining to act as Chairman. The result will be the selection of some more obscure man, who will be willing to run the risk of political annihilation for the sake of the temporary prominence he will gain.

An Ohio Democratic Congressman named RICE has been endeavoring to make political capital during the past week, by assuming to be the author of the pension arrears bill, which recently became a law. His object was to secure the Democratic lomination for GOVERNOR of Ohio, for which position he is a candidate. The real truth appears to be that RICE is not the author of the bill, did not secure its passage, and is entitled to no special credit at all. The bill which passed was introduced by Mr. CUMMINGS of Iowa, and was referred to the Committee on Pensions, of which Mr. RICE is chairman. The committee took no action on the bill, and on the last night of the session HASKILL, of Kansas, was recognized and moved to suspend the rules, and on his motion this bill of CUMMINGS' was passed. When it got over to the Senate, Senator INGALLS labored hard for its passage, and by able management secured it.

The Treasury Department states that over 25,000,000 of coin obligations, including 1,400,000 of United States notes presented for redemption, has been paid the current month. Yet coin in the Treasury has steadily increased. Hereafter Assistant Treasurers will pay interest on government bonds in gold if desired. No great demand, however, is expected. The February interest amounts to about $6,000,000.

Much excitement has been created at New York and elsewhere over the reports that the British Government had prohibited the importation of live cattle from America under fear of contagious diseases. The latest reports deny that any such prohibition has been made, and the British Vice Consul at New York has received no intimation of any such prohibition.

France during the past week has passed through a peaceful revolution, Pres. MCMAHON having resigned, and GREVY, President of the Council, having been chosen in his stead. The change was brought by the demand of the advanced Republicans that the civil branch of the army administration should be reorganized, and the heads of divisions so changed that the entire army might be brought into harmony with the Republic. To this demand it was impossible for MCMAHON, with his views of the army, to accede. The election of GREVY is a triumph for the advanced Republicans.

Europe is greatly excited over the plague, which is striking north and east from the Caspian Sea, and 90 per cent. of the people attacked die. The disease was imported by two regiments of Cossacks, returned from the war in Turkey. At first it was thought to be merely a variety of typhus fever, and but little attention was paid to it until it began to assume alarming proportions. People fled from it and scattered the germs in all directions. The plague has now reached Nijni-Novgorod, but a few hours' ride from Moscow.

NEXT year the repudiating Memphians will be wondering "why North ern capital is not sent in here to improve our great natural resources?"

TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

The Nationals who expect to become members of the Forty-sixth Congress recently held a caucus at Washington. The object of the caucus was to decide upon their future course, and as an important preliminary to such decision, to ascertain what inducements were offered, what especial influences available to enable them to discover what their convictions really were. Their predilections, we are told, are in favor of the Democrats, but at the same time etc., etc. It would not be difficult to imagine that we hear the voice of the Chairman of the National Executive Committee, the Great American Depurator, crying his wares from the steps of the Capitol. "How much am I offered for a first-class set of political principles, new, and little used; also a lot of highly unselfish and patrioic motives—in bulk? Will not *some* gentleman give us a bid, if only to start 'em? Going, going——"

What has occurred in Washington is to-day occurring in various States throughout the Union where the National movement obtained a foothold. The only difference apparent is that in the latter case negotiations for the proposed affiliation with the Democratic party are carried on more openly, and with less adroitness. The object in each case is the same; the party leader at Washington seeks to reap the benefits of an election already held, while his lesser associate in State or County politics desires to secure the fruits of the coming canvass. Each realizes that the movement reached its culmination last fall, and that whatever is to be done to secure to its friends a share in the distribution of spoils and perquisities must be done quickly. There are honest men among the great body of supporters, who think differently, but there is little doubt that the party leaders already look upon themselves as administrators and executors.

But aside from the evident condition of the party, the spectacle of their leaders in Congress inviting bids for their votes must be anything but an entertaining one to the well-meaning National citizen. The attitude of the National Congressman might at least have been one of independence and honesty, and he might at least have commanded respect where he could not control legislation. He might have been a check to the irregularities of either party, and being a law unto himself, might have claimed credit for the honesty of his intentions and the purity of his motives, as he cast his vote without regard to the mandates which are supposed to control the members of the two leading political organizations. But a course of this kind, however well it might harmonize with the views of the right-minded voters in the party, means to to the leaders a career of empty honor for which they did not bargain. Consequently they choose to merge their identity in the ranks of the Democracy, content for the sake of what may accrue by such a bargain to support a host of measures with which their own party has no sympathy. There are plenty of Nationals who will agree with us in saying that when this condition of things is reached, their party has lived long enough.

GREVY AND GAMBETTA.

The new President of the French Republic was born in the East of France, in the Jurassic Mountain district, and is a good representative of the Celtic race. During the time of the Empire he would not listen to any proposal for office and distinction, brilliant though they might be, and it is said that even now he clings to the idea, which he once advanced in the form of a motion to the French Assembly, of not having any President. Several years ago a writer of a series of sketches describing some of the leading French politicians, said of M. GREVY: "He is, of all others, the man whose public virtue, talents and private austerity best fit him to be M. THIERS' immediate successor." And again: "As long as M. GREVY is to the fore, the Republic need not perish for that rare thing, a brave and steady man at the helm."

The same writer referred to the antagonism between GREVY and GAMBETTA, and foreshadowed the very thing which has come about,—their association in the conduct of the affairs of France. It appears as if the latter was also the right man in the right place. He has rare administrative abilities, which will be brought—to play in his new position, and he can have an opportunity to show that instead of being an ambitious agitator, which he has been accused of, he is a statesman, and a fitting leader of a great party.

REV. SENSATIONALIST TALMAGE finds that in his church is a powerful element whose love for the traditions of Presbyterianism is shocked by his pulpit performances. An old-fashioned Presbyterian is the last man in the world to be swept from his moorings by the noisy, foaming surf of the TALMAGE school. "The milk of the Word" is what he demands, and he will have it in all its purity, or make trouble. Mr. TALMAGE had better cast about for the usual port for such as he—an independent church—where doctrine and practice are of less moment than ear catching oratory.

THOUGH last year's grain crop was the largest in the history of the country; though every City in the grain business was overflowing with trade, and though New Orleans has been blowing very loud trumpets as to what she intended to do in the grain trade of the country, she did less in that line than ever. If the people of New Orleans would reverse the present order of things and make business the serious work of life, and politics the occasional relaxation, they would succeed in regaining the lost trade of their City. The country would also be much better off from an atatement of their energy in political matters.

SEN. CONKLING sustained a severe and unexpected defeat Monday in the matter of the New York nominations. No one was prepared for so overwhelming a vote in favor of confirmation—nor, in fact, for so many Republicans voting against it. There was certainly abundant reason for ousting ARTHUR, and no matter what Republicans may have thought of the President's Civil Service policy, they should not crucify thereon their convictions of what was best for the country. A bad officer should be removed and done away with—Civil Service policy, or no Civil Service policy. There is room for just suspicion that many of the Republican Senators who voted with CONKLING did so from purely personal grounds,—from resentment at the President's disregard of their wishes in some matter of patronage.

GOULD'S TROUBLES.

JAY GOULD, who has for so many years been one of the leading manipulators of the stock market, seems about to lose his prestige and perhaps the millions which he has accumulated during a long series of successful operations. Unless some sudden and unexpected change should come to help him out of his difficulties, he must soon join the "innumerable caravan" of Wall Street kings, which has "moved to that mysterious realm" from which there is little chance of returning.

Mr. GOULD'S business life has been one of perpetually tearing down what others have built up. He was the "bear" which would remorselessly crunch values, and so potent did his name become, that a mere rumor that he was about to beat the market would produce a downward tendency, and bring about the very condition of things that always followed his actual operations.

His last procedure, however, calls to mind most forcibly the story of the bull and the locomotive. He pitted himself against the whole United States and has found himself worsted. As the time approached in which Government had promised to return to specie payment, JAY GOULD went to work to assault the credit of the Nation, by endeavoring to "bull" the gold market and to "bear" stocks. He failed completely. Resumption took place at the appointed time and without the least disturbance in business affairs.

Mr. GOULD has made a great mistake, but being a man of genius and full of expedients, with little or no conscience, he may take a course that will eventually bring him out of his troubles. At present he is said to be losing money at the rate of $100,000 a week. He held a large amount of Northwest which he sold at 41 and 42, and to day it is up to 63. The Michigan Central would have to go down to 35 to save him from loss, and it now stands at 89. Of this stock he is "short" 15,000 shares, and 25,000 shares of Lake Shore, and he has nothing with which to retrieve himself save his 169,000 shares of the Union Pacific, which he is staggering under and which no one will buy. These are the best defined of the rumors now circulating in regard to the troubles of the money king.

THE GREAT VALLEY.

Hon. EUGENE UNDERWOOD has addressed the Governors of the States bordering upon the Mississippi River as to the absolute necessity of some united action with reference to the improvement of navigation of that stream and its tributaries. He includes in the vast territory to be benefited, all the land reaching from the Alleghany on the East, to the Rocky Mountains upon the West, and from the great lakes upon the North to the Gulf upon the South, containing an area of not less than 1,244,000 square miles. The water courses already furnish 15,000 miles for navigation in their present condition, and are capable of great improvement and extension both for commercial and manufacturing purposes.

The State streams however, cannot be fully improved until the national rivers, or those under the control of the United States, are made better. This can readily be seen by the condition of the Ohio which is often impassible or difficult to navigate even by the small craft that ply the streams in Kentucky which have been made securely navigable by locks and dams, and this inability to send produce safely to market at all seasons, checks commercial enterprise in that, as well as in all other States similarly situated.

The strength of Mr. UNDERWOOD'S reasoning as to the importance of making the natural highways of the country as perfect as possible will be readily understood by every thoughtful person, and that it is with the Mississippi River that the present work should begin. The object of the address was to arouse the Governors of the States interested to a more earnest and united appeal to the United States Government for appropriations for an immediate commencement. The next important part of it, however, is the manner in which it shall be done. The objections to the levee system have already been laid before the readers of THE BLADE. Of the other plans now under consideration, that of Capt. COWDON'S appears to be gaining strength every day, not only because of its eminent feasibility declared by the best engineers of the country, out also that of its small expense compared to the other measures proposed. That matter once settled, nothing appears to be in the way of procuring safe navigation of not only the Mississippi, but of its tributaries, and the arousing of commercial interests in some of the States that at present seem in a stupor in regard to advancement in this direction.

AN IMPORTANT REDUCTION.

In order to accommodate all who wish to make selections from our list of Strndard Authors, we have reduced the price, and will hereafter send copies to any address, post-paid, on receipt of *seventy-five cents* each. This list is a careful selection from the best English authors, including Shakespeare, Milton, Byron, Campbell, Cowper, and a large number of other standard writers. Each volume is handsomely bound in cloth and gilt, with from 500 to 700 pages, printed on large, clear type and tinted paper, with full gilt edges, numerously illustrated with fine engravings. They are at once the handsomest and cheapest books on our list. Any any one of these books and the BLADE one year sent on receipt of $2.50; former price for the two, $2.75.

DR. SEARS has gone to Texas to confer with the Legislature in regard to applying a part of the Peabody fund to the establishment of a school system in that State. They have very few schools, and these are not particularly effective and are open only a small part of the year. During the past year 137 Counties reported there were 4,633 schools organized and maintained for four months. The school population of these Counties amounted to 164,294; 146,946 were enrolled, and 23,903 did not attend school The average salary paid to teachers was $38, and the total of expenditures for educational purposes was $747,584. The total receipts were $859,484. Of the total population of the State from six to 18 years 30 per cent. cannot read.

AT the end of the first month after Resumption the Government had $300,-000 more coin in the Treasury than when the month began. Will the Greenbackers please set a date when they expect the failure of Resumption to begin?

MUCH courting is going on between the Greenback and Democratic leaders in Michigan. If the union is consummated the issue will be an amalgamated ticket for the Spring elections.

WATER WAYS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The improvement of the Mississippi River which has so largely occupied the attention of Congress and the people generally, this winter, is, without doubt, a most important step in the future prosperity of the nation. It is the best, and it might almost be said the only means of quickly extending American commerce into Mexico, which contains 27 States and one territory, and has a large population, many of whose wants are to be supplied from some other country. Next to the United States, it is the most extensive and in natural productions the richest Republic in the world. But it is greatly deficient in the very articles which we can supply in the way of manufactures, and its commerce is entirely dependent as yet upon water transportation. The trade of many of the States of South America is also desirable, particularly that of Brazil, and in order to secure it a cheap connection with the great inland regions of the United States, such as the Mississippi river with its navigation unobstructed would afford, is greatly to be desired.

While this is true, there are other water ways whose improvement is as absolutely essential to the development of our commerce as that of the Mississippi. One of these and perhaps the most important is the opening up a route to the Upper Lakes. According to the calculation of the St. Paul Convention, which met to consider the matter some time since, the sum of $1,045,000 would be sufficient to do all that is necessary, while $450,000 would complete the new canal locks at St. Mary's and bring them into use in 1880. These would then be a depth of 16 feet of water, instead of the present maximum of 12½ feet, which would make a large difference in the carrying capacity of vessels.

The fact that the early completion of the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals practically opens a new water way to the Atlantic, must be kept steadily in view in considering this matter.

A deep water navigation of 880 miles between the East and West of a country is a grand possession, and should be made the most of it at the earliest possible moment. Duluth, which stands at the head of this long stretch of navigation to the sea, is the key to the magnificent Northwest whose possibilities, the unfolding of which was checked by the misfortunes of the Northern Pacific Road, are almost beyond calculation. It is of great national moment that there shall be an unobstructed way to the seaboard. With the tolls from the Erie Canal removed, which must follow the new competition from the opening of the Canadian water route, and the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a commercial line within our own territory would be formed that must be of inestimable benefit to the national interests involved in the development of both home and foreign trade.

A FAMILY BIBLE.

We have just added to our assortment of books a very fine edition of the Bible, with the Apocrypha, Concordance and Psalms, the text conformable to the Oxford and American Bible Societies' Standard editions. To these are added: Biographical Sketches of the Translator's and Reformers and other eminent Bible Scholars; notes on the Old and New Testament and the Apocrypha, by WILLIAM SMITH, LL.D.; a most comprehensive pronouncing Bible Dictionary, compiled from the latest editions of SMITH, KITTO and FAIRBURN; a Family Register and Marriage Certificate, all on heavy tinted paper; and a beautifully illumined title page, with a large number of very superior full-page wood engravings. The size is royal quarto, 10x12 inches, 1,000 pages, very large clear type, double column of marginal references. Regular price, $10; our price for Bible alone, $7; Bible and BLADE, one year, $8.

We feel perfectly safe in saying that a better opportunity for securing a fine family Bible at low price will never offer. The book makes a whole religious library in itself, and a copy ought to be in every family.

THERE is a limit to human endurance which must be reached sometime, and if the possibility of its existence is ignored, the penalty must inevitably be paid. Not long ago two freight trains came together upon the Pennsylvania Railroad, and the accident is said to have been due to the fact that the engineer had been kept on duty constantly for four days without rest or sleep. If railway companies require, or even knowingly allow, such a draught upon any of their employes as that, they should be made to suffer for it severely. Setting aside the injustice to the employes themselves, it jeopardizes the lives of all individuals riding upon their roads. The matter ought to be thoroughly investigated, and not in the half and half way which has grown to be the custom, where no one is held to be responsible, but searchingly and carefully as the case demands.

IT will not be long until the European Governments see the impolicy of the protective tariffs they are now laying upon articles of daily consumption. Whatever may be said in favor of a protective tariff for manufactures does not apply in the least to those of things of vital necessity for subsistence. For instance, while it may be good policy to encourage the manufacture of silk in a country by enhancing the price of that imported, a like tax upon bread and meat would be a positive wrong done to every poor person in the nation. BISMARCK can not levy a prohibition tariff upon coal and breadstuffs as he proposes, without adding immensely to the already great distress of the poorer classes, and making a revolution imminent.

SAMUEL TILDEN is soon to ornament the witness box made famous by the achievements of ANDERSON and Mrs. JENKS. Can we hope that his performances therein will equal those of his illustrious predecessors? The first gave us an exhibition of a fine talent for lying, developed by careful education into genius, and the second showed us how much superior womanly tact is to the most cunning devices of the skilled cross-examiner. To do as well as these Mr. TILDEN will have to do remarkably well. The role that he will doubtless play will entitle him to the place of the greatest of American Equivocators.

THE HUNTON-ALEXANDER "affa' of bonah, sah,"—in which not enough blood was spilt to moisten the point of a pin—threatens to become a great national question.

SUNSET COX'S profound interest in the census is probably owing to its being the only thing containing ciphers that a Democrat can now regard with any complacency.

For the Blade.

ANDERSONVILLE

A STORY OF SOUTHERN PRISONS.

The Life of a Prisoner-of-War in Richmond, Andersonville, Millen, Savannah, Charleston and Florence.

BY A PRIVATE SOLDIER.

[Copyright secured, 1878.]

CHAPTER XXII.

LONGINGS FOR "GOD'S COUNTRY."

In our mind the world now contained but two grand divisions, as widely different from each other as happiness and misery. The first—that portion over which our flag floated—was usually spoken of as "God's Country;" the other—that under the baleful shadow of the banner of rebellion—was designated by the most opprobrious epithets at the speaker's command.

To get from the latter to the former was to attain, at one bound, the highest good. Better be a doorkeeper in the House of the Lord, under the stars and stripes, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness, under the hateful Southern Cross.

To take even the humblest and hardest of service in the field now would be a delightsome change. We did not ask to go home—we would be content with anything, so long as it was in that blest place—"within our lines." Only let us get back once, and there would be no more grumbling at rations or guard duty. We would willingly endure all hardships and privations that soldier flesh is heir to.

There were two ways of getting back—escape and exchange. Exchange was like the ever-receding mirage of the desert, that lures the thirsty traveler on over the parched sands, with illusions of refreshing springs, only to leave, at last, his bones to whiten by the side of those of his unremembered predecessors. Every day there came something to build up the hopes that exchange was near at hand—every day brought something to extinguish the hopes of the preceding one. We took these varying phases according to our several temperaments. The sanguine built themselves up on the encouraging reports; the desponding sank down and died under the discouraging ones.

Escape was a perpetual allurement. To the actively inclined among us it seemed always possible, and daring, busy brains were indefatigable in concocting schemes for it. The only bit of Rebel brain work that I ever saw for which I did not feel contempt, was the perfect precautions taken to prevent our escape. This is shown by the fact that, although, from first to last, there were nearly 50,000 prisoners in Andersonville, and three out of every five of these were ever on the alert to take French leave of their captors, only 328 succeeded in getting so far away from Andersonville as to leave it to be presumed that they had reached our lines.

The first, and almost superhuman difficulty was to get outside the stockade. It was simply impossible to scale it. The guards were too close together to allow an instant's hope to the most sanguine, that he could even pass the dead line without being shot by some one of them. This same closeness prevented any hope of bribing them. To be successful half those on post would have to be bribed, as every part of the stockade was clearly visible from every other part, and there was no night so dark as not to allow a plain view to a number of guards of the dark figure outlined against the light colored logs of any Yankee who should essay to clamber towards the top of the palisades.

The gates were so carefully guarded every time they were opened as to preclude hope of slipping out through them. They were only unclosed twice or thrice a day,—once to admit the men to call the roll, once to let them out again, once to let the wagons come in with rations, and once, perhaps, to admit new prisoners. At all these times every precaution was taken to prevent any one getting out surreptitiously.

This narrowed down the possibilities of passing alive the limits of the pen to tunnelling. This was also surrounded by almost insuperable difficulties. First, it required not less than 50 feet of subterranean excavation to get out, which was an enormous work with our limited means. Then the logs forming the stockade were set in the ground to a depth of five feet, and the tunnel had to go down beneath them. They had an unpleasant habit of dropping down into the burrow under them. It added much to the discouragements of tunneling to think of one of these massive timbers dropping upon a fellow as he worked his mole-like way under it, and either crushing him to death outright, or pinning him there to die of suffocation and hunger.

In one instance, in a tunnel near me, but in which I was not interested, the log slipped down after the digger had got out beyond it. He immediately began digging for the surface, for life, and was fortunately able to break through before he suffocated. He got his head above the ground, and then fainted. The guard outside saw him, pulled him out of the hole, and when he recovered sensibility hurried him back into the stockade.

In another tunnel, also, near us, a broad-shouldered German of the Second Minnesota, went in to take his turn at digging. He was so much larger than any of his predecessors that he stuck fast in a narrow part, and despite all the efforts of himself and comrades, it was found impossible to move him one way or the other. The comrades were at last reduced to the humiliation of informing the officer of the Guard of their tunnel and the condition of their friend, and asking assistance to release him, which was given.

The great tunneling tool was the indispensable half-canteen. The inventive genius of our people, stimulated by the war, produced nothing for the comfort and effectiveness of the soldier equal in usefulness to this humble and unrecognized utensil. It will be remembered that a canteen was composed of two pieces of tin struck up into the shape of saucers, and soldered together at the edges. After a soldier had been in the field a little while, and thrown away or lost the curious and complicated kitchen furniture he started out with, he found that by melting the halves of his canteen apart, he had a vessel much handier in every way than any he had parted with. It could be used for anything—to make soup or coffee in, bake bread, brown coffee, stew vegetables, etc., etc. A sufficient handle was made with a split stick. When the cooking was done, the handle was thrown away, and the half canteen slipped out of the road into the haversack. There seemed to be no end of the uses to which this ever-ready disk of blackened sheet iron could be turned. Several instances are on record where infantry regiments, with no other tools than this, covered themselves on the field with quite respectable rifle-pits.

The starting point of a tunnel was always some tent close to the dead line, and sufficiently well enclosed to screen the operations from the sight of the guards near by. The party engaging in the work organized by giving every man a number, to secure the proper apportionment of the work. No. 1 began digging with his half canteen. After he had worked until tired, he came out, and No. 2 took his place, and so on. The tunnel was simply a round, rat-like burrow, a little larger than a man's body. The digger lay on his stomach, dug ahead of him, threw the dirt under him, and worked it back with his feet till the man behind him, also lying on his stomach, could catch it and work it back to the next. As the tunnel lengthened the number of men behind each other in this way had to be increased, so that in a tunnel 75 feet long there would be from eight to 10 men lying one behind the other. When the dirt was pushed back to the mouth of the tunnel it was taken up in improvised bags made by tying up the bottoms of pantaloon legs, carried to the swamp and emptied. The work in the tunnel was very exhausting, and the digger had to be relieved every half-hour.

The greatest trouble was to carry the tunnel forward in a straight line. As nearly everybody dug most of the time with the right hand, there was an almost irresistible tendency to make the course veer to the left. The first tunnel I was connected with was a ludicrous illustration of this. About 20 of us had devoted our nights for over a week to the prolongation of a burrow. We had not yet reached the stockade, which astonished us, as measurement with a string showed that we had gone nearly twice the distance necessary for the purpose. The thing was inexplicable, and we ceased operations to consider the matter. The next day a man walking by a tent some little distance from the one in which hole began, was badly startled by the ground giving way under his feet, and his sinking nearly to his waist in a hole. It was very singular, but after wondering over the matter for some hours, there came a glimmer of suspicion that it might be in some way connected with the missing end of our tunnel. One of us started through on an exploring expedition, and confirmed the suspicions by coming out where the man had broken through. Our tunnel was shaped like a horse shoe, and the beginning and end were not 15 feet apart. After that we practised digging with the left hand, and made certain compensations for the tendency to the sinister side.

Another trouble connected with tunneling was the number of traitors and spies among us. There were many—principally among the N'Yaarker crowd—who were always zealous to betray a tunnel, in order to curry favor with the Rebel officers. Then, again, the Rebels had numbers of their own men in the pen at night, as spies. It was hardly even necessary to dress these in our uniform, because a great many of our own men came in to the prison in Rebel clothes, having been compelled to trade garments with their captors.

One day in May, quite an excitement was raised by the detection of one of these "tunnel traitors" in such a way as left no doubt of his guilt. At first everybody was in favor of killing him, and they actually started to beat him to death. This was arrested by a proposition to "have Captain Jack tattoo him," and the suggestion was immediately acted upon.

Captain Jack was a sailor who had been with us in the Pemberton building at Richmond. He was a very skillful tattoo artist, but, I am sure, could make the process nastier than any other that I ever saw attempt it. He chewed tobacco enormously. After pricking away for a few minutes at the design on the arm or some portion of the body, he would deluge it with a flood of tobacco spit, which, he claimed, acted as a kind of mordant. Wiping this off with a filthy rag, he would study the effect for an instant, and then go ahead with another series of prickings and tobacco juice drenchings.

The Tunnel-traitor was taken to Captain Jack. That worthy decided to brand him with a great "T," the top part to extend across his forehead and the stem to run down his nose. Captain Jack got his tattooing kit ready, and the fellow was thrown upon the ground and held there. The Captain took his head between his legs, and began operations. After an instant's work with the needles, he opened his mouth, and filled the wretch's face and eyes full of the disgusting saliva. The crowd roundabout yelled with delight at this new process. For an hour that was doubtless an eternity to the rascal undergoing branding Capt. Jack continued his alternate pickings and drenchings. At the end of that time the traitor's face was disfigured with a hideous mark that he would bear to his grave. We learned afterwards that he was not one of our men, but a Rebel spy. This added much to our satisfaction with the manner of his treatment. He disappeared shortly after the operation was finished, being, I suppose, taken outside. I hardly think Captain Jack would be pleased to meet him again.

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE HOUNDS, ETC.

Those who succeeded, one way or another, in passing the stockade limits, found still more difficulties lying between them and freedom than would discourage ordinarily resolute men. The first was to get away from the immediate vicinity of the prison. All around were Rebel patrols, pickets and guards, watching every avenue of egress. Several packs of hounds formed efficient coadjutors of these, and were more dreaded by possible "escapes," than any other means at the command of our jailors. Guards and patrols could be evaded, or circumvented, but the hounds could not. Nearly every man brought back from a futile attempt at escape, told the same story: he had been able to escape the human Rebels, but not their canine colleagues. Three of our detachment—members of the 20th Indiana—had an experience of this kind that will serve to illustrate hundreds of others. They had been taken outside to do some work upon the cook house that was building. A guard was sent with the three a little distance into the woods to get a piece of timber. The boys sauntered along carelessly with the guard, and managed to get pretty near him. As soon as they were fairly out of sight of the rest, the strongest of them—Tom Williams—snatched the Rebel's gun away from him, and the other two sprang upon him as swift as wild cats, and throttled him, so that he could not give the alarm. Still keeping a hand on his throat they led him off some distance, and tied him to a sapling with strings made by tearing up one of their blouses. He was also securely gagged, and the boys, bidding him a hasty but not specially tender farewell, struck out, as they fondly hoped for, freedom. It was not long until they were missed, and the parties sent in search found and released the guard, who gave all the information he possessed as to what had become of his charges. All the packs of hounds, the squads of cavalry, and the foot patrols were sent out to scour the adjacent country. The Yankees kept in the swamps and creeks, and no trace of them was found that afternoon or evening. By this time they were 10 or 15 miles away, and thought that they could safely leave the creeks for better walking on the solid ground. They had gone but a few miles, when the pack of hounds Captain Wirz was with took their trail, and came after them in full cry. The boys tried to run, but, exhausted as they were, they could make no headway. Two of them were soon caught, but Tom Williams, who was so desperate that he preferred death to recapture, jumped into a mill-pond near by. When he came up, it was in a lot of saw logs and drift wood that hid him from being seen from the shore. The dogs stopped at the shore, and bayed after the disappearing prey. The Rebels with them, who had seen Tom spring in, came up and made a pretty thorough search for him. As they did not think to probe around the drift wood this was unsuccessful, and they came to the conclusion that Tom had been drowned. Wirz marched the other two back and, for a wonder, did not punish them, probably because he was so rejoiced at his success in recapturing them. He was beaming with delight when he returned them to our squad, and said, with a chuckle:

"Prisoners, I pring you pack two of dem tam Yankees wat got away yesterday, and I run de oder raskal into a mill pont and trowated him."

What was our astonishment, about three weeks later, to see Tom, fat and healthy, and dressed in a full suit of butternut, come stalking into the pen. He had nearly reached the mountains, when a pack of hounds, patrolling for deserters or negros, took his trail, where he had crossed the road from one field to another and speedily run him down. He had been put in a little country jail and well fed till an opportunity occurred to send him back. This patrolling for negros and deserters was another of the great obstacles to a successful passage through the country. The Rebels had put every able bodied white man in the ranks, and were bending every energy to keep him there. The whole country was carefully policed by Provost Marshals to bring out those who were shirking military duty, or had deserted their colors, and to check any movement by the negros. One could not go anywhere without a pass, as every road was continually watched by men and hounds. It was the policy of our men, when escaping to avoid roads as much as possible by traveling through the woods and fields.

From what I saw of the hounds, and what I could learn from others, I believe that each pack was made up of two bloodhounds and from 25 to 50 other dogs. The bloodhounds were dessed descendants of the strong and fierce hounds imported from Cuba—many of them by the United States Government, for hunting Indians during the Seminole war. The other dogs were the mongrels that are found in such plentifulness about every Southern house—increasing, as a rule, in numbers as the inhabitant of the house is lower down and poorer. They are like wolves, sneaking and cowardly when alone, fierce and bold when in packs. Each pack was managed by a well armed man, who rode a mule, and carried, slung over his shoulders by a cord, a cow horn, scraped very thin, with which he controlled the band by signals.

What always puzzled me much was why the hounds took only Yankee trails, in the vicinity of the prison. There was about the stockades from 6,000 to 10,000 Rebels and negros, including guards, officers, servants, workmen, etc. These were, of course, continually in motion and must have daily made trails leading in every direction. It was the custom of the Rebels to send a pack of hounds around the prison every morning, to examine if any Yankees had escaped during the night. It was believed that they rarely failed to find a prisoner's tracks, and still more rarely ran off upon a Rebel's. If those outside the stockade had been confined to certain paths and roads we could have understood this, but, as I understand, they were not. It was part of the interest of the day, for us, to watch the packs go yelping around the pen searching for tracks. We got information in this way whether any tunnels had been successfully opened during the night.

The use of hounds furnished us a crushing reply to the ever-recurring Rebel question:

"Why are you-uns puttin' niggers in the field to fight we uns for?"

The questioner was always silenced by the return interrogatory:

"Is that as bad as running white men down with blood hounds?"

TO BE CONTINUED.

A MOCK SENATE.

"When the Cat's Away, the Mice Will Play."

An Amusing Scene in the Senate Chamber—How the Little Rascals Took off their Superiors.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The trite saying, "When the cat's away the mice will play," was aptly illustrated by the pages of

Correspondence.

HOME LETTER.

Early Spring Fashions—The Science of Dress—Sewing for the Boys—Millinery and Dress Notes—Callings open to Women—To Correspondents, Etc.

Correspondence Toledo Blade.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30, 1879.

EARLY FASHIONS.

It is not time for details of City fashions, for the wholesale millinery houses only talk of opening their sales on the 10th of March, and the hardiest firms will not show dress goods for a fortnight to come. The slow, full-length winter promises a satisfactory time for sewing and preparations, before the delightful season calls one out to flower beds and rambling in the open air. No women enjoy life half as well, and get its full flavor, as those who owe most pleasures to their own skill, and have a hand in every part of household and social life. What happy hours are now passing among clever women,

BETWEEN NEEDLE AND SEWING MACHINE,

with chat and song and jest as the hours go by, while trim ruffle, and fine tucking and shapely garment are turned off by quick fingers, each with the finish and fit which marks the needlewoman who makes her own dresses, and which ordinary dressmakers cannot or will not put into work for love or money. For my part I have forsworn their aid, except under stress as necessary evils. I never beat down prices with one or made her ask for her money twice in my life, but I could count all the good ones I know East or West on the fingers of one hand, and the gowns that poor ones have spoiled and the money paid for work that straightway had to be ripped up and done over would keep any reasonable woman in dress for a year. The principal part of the teaching in all trades now seems to be how to slight, and the sewing women are born mistresses of it. When a pet dress comes home the first trying on reveals some ragged seam, a pocket run together and basted in, a cambric facing where there should be one of the dress material, a crazy bias or an awkward misfit of arm and shoulder that spoils the prestige of the dress, and the comfort in wearing it is gone forever. So I advise all women who feel as all right-minded women do, that the best is only good enough for them, to be their own dressmakers, as men learn how to invest money, as knowledge belonging to every complete person, which no one can trust to another as well as himself. In Charles Reade's liveliest story of English life, his

"LOVE ME LITTLE, LOVE ME LONG,"

his favorite Lucy Fountain, the heiress and perfect lady is convicted of a talent for dress making, which she indulges under the rose, like a lady born, and one of the bits of feminine comedy is the device by which Miss Fountain persuades Mrs. Bazalgette into taking the peach-blossom silk she has made for her on the sly, by allowing her to think it was meant for some one else. In the old English novels, belles of rank and fortune are described as making their own ball dresses, a pleasure now reserved in the best bred girls of our own cities.

MODJESKA'S DRESSES.

Modjeska, complete and charming woman as she is, finest of actresses, while showing her wardrobe for Juliet, at her hotel, secured me once that every line of her dresses was studied and corrected by herself, and she never trusted the modiste to carry out a detail without personal inspection. French artists of repute are proud to design costumes for her, but not even their work is accepted without the correction of Modjeska's unerring taste, which stamps its own cachet upon everything she wears so that her poetical dark and coloring rises like the sheath to the lily, and it is better to see Modjeska acting, moving and breathing in dumb show than to hear any seven other actresses on this side the water. Talk of her going to Worth for dresses, indeed. Worth would be on his mettle to please her, and would be only too much honored by her wearing one of her designs, but there is a certain vulgarity in the way society reporters not up in their subject, assign every well-designed dress worn by a lady of note, to Worth, as though there were not a dozen private French houses whose designs are of more distinction. Women of style like to have their dresses admired, but do not care to go by the name of their dressmaker.

SEWING FOR BOYS.

But before leaving the praise of needle and thread this passing but weighted testimony, in an article which treats of the Boston system of training in schools in the February *Harper*:

"In a too intellectual training certain offices have gradually been introduced, 'drawing and music specials.' Latterly sewing has been introduced with marked results for good, and the chief regret of its friends has been that there was not some universal implement like the needle, in the use of which boys might be trained. Now in sewing, a two-fold advantage is secured. The training of the eye and hand follows much as it does in drawing. The child who passes in our public school through all the stages from threading a needle to cutting out a dress is supplied with an economy of power far more useful than the art of drawing to her."

A wise woman would suggest that it would be no loss if boys learned how to use the needle, as well as girls. It is as valuable or rather more valuable for them to have the use of this little implement, as it is for their sisters to know how to wield hammer or screwdriver on occasion. Sailors are the neatest of sewers and menders, and I have known college students who could darn their own socks as neatly as their mothers could do it for them. The Padelfords, of Rhode Island, I believe, hold such a place in their State as the Pickens and Hamptons of South Carolina, or the Carys and Fairfaxes in Virginia, and one of the ladies told me that it was the fashion for all the beautiful daughters and young heiresses daily into the mother's room and take their lessons in sewing, and the future governors and colonels and lawyers hemmed towels and sewed sheets with the best of the girls. Some who read this will recognize the name of Father Clellan, widely known and loved among the Indiana churches, and his family of spirited children and their smoothly working home. It was there I remember the gay group called in every day to sew, where some of the wildest boys that ever climbed apple trees took their needles and sewed balls of carpet rags in honest fashion, with the rest of us. To come down to later days, the Peter Smaltry of the house where this is written, knew no better fun while he was in knee trousers than working silver perforated card with bright wools for shaving case covers and hair-pin boxes. Teach the boys to sew, and teach the girls to cut and make their own gowns and trim their own hats, if you want to be remembered gratefully by them when your heads are gray.

NEW MILLINERY.

Letters from Paris by the last steamer say that large bonnets with high fronts will be worn, and early models for home trade are a smaller edition of the poke bonnets in yellow straws. These promise a great deal of trimming, which is supplied by brilliant figured ribbons in close, palm leaf and Persian brocades, and in gay chintz sprigs on bordered ribbons in bright metallic blues and garnets. Paris samples show a variety of fancy ribbons, in soft taffeta, reversible ribbons in cord stripes, pale blue and straw buff one side, olive and straw on the other. A handsome ribbon of this kind has between the raised stripes be embroidered with jardiniere colors, that is a, miniature of gay colors, as shown in garden beds. Flowers will be used in quantities, roses of course, and plats of Spring flowers, cyclamens, jonquils, hyacinths in variety, shaded violets, pansies and lilacs. Straw buff will be a favorite color, as it has great popularity abroad, and the tea-rose and peach-blossom shades renew their lovely rivalry. The navy blue is a brilliant yet subtle blending of blue and green, called sea-blue. Both bright and deep shades are thickly threaded with straw buff, the ground pleasantly showing in minute flecks, making a light effect as the rule. Light tabs feta ribbons in finest pinhead checks, and lustrous ones with gray edges and rosebuds chance on white grounds are repetitions of old fancies. The best houses say they will not advise plaids, ribbons or trimmings of any kind, except with suits heavily striped, and brocaded ribbons in Moorish designs taking the first place.

DRESS NOTES.

Soft laines and brocaded wools in small, bright figures will enter largely into spring importations, and light beiges, almond, buff and dust browns, will be safe colors to choose. Very light ashy grays and very dark grays will be worn of their color. Buff, garnet and gray, is a new selection of color; buff, turquoise and peach color another, in Venetian style. French jackets and square overskirts, finished with passants or folds of contrasting color passing the edges and forming a mere line of color, will be seen, and the glove-fitting polonaise, without drapery, is still an exclusive garment. The full pleated skirt, as predicted, is seen, but makes wearers look so stout and ugly in eyes trained to the comely slenderness of gored dresses, that there will be a pause before its general adoption.

Inquiries are made for the India silks in chintz figures which make such pretty house dresses and wash like cotton, but the best counters in New York, Stewart's, Arnold and Constable's, and McCherry's and others, the only consolation offered is that a few pieces may be shown with the Spring goods. The large sale of silks at auctions early in this season which possessed several ladies with the idea of getting black silks, at unheard of figures proved to be of fancy American silks, in armures and brocades both dark and light from $1.25 up. An opportunity is now offered by a leading house of purchasing black thread laces at 50 cents on the dollar, a chance which will hardly happen soon again. However ladies must be warned not to expect $3 00 worth for $1 00, even in buying in the City. One of the first partners in a leading firm said that the house had ceased to advertise their best bargains in outside papers, as it was impossible to send samples and allow ladies to make their choice from a distance before desirable lines were exhausted. I have made it my rule, contrary to the old advice, never to buy a thing because it is cheap, if possible always to buy staple articles when low, as the chance once lost, is lost for long. For instance, not a pair of the 10 cent cuffs, or the hand-wrought linen lawn kerchiefs for 25 cents, or the 50 cent felt slippers, spoken of before in these letters, are to be found in New York today, they proved so popular. The slippers, however, can be ordered from Boston direct from the manufacturers.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In answer to several inquiries, I must decline sending samples, as any merchant in the City will readily supply them on application, with from 6 to 25 cents for postage. To fill the various commissions asked would compel me to give up all other work, which neither inclination nor engagements would allow. I repeat distinctly that no charge is made for such commissions for BLADE readers as time allows, as I have not the slightest notion of going into general merchandising. I have known something of the inconveniences of pioneer life, amongst other experiences, and am more than happy to send embroidery samples and wools to someone in Iowa, or a yard of rubber cloth, or a package of collars to Kansas, or fringe to finish her shawl to a girl in a small country town where fancy fringes are scarce. While I would send a spool of silk for some woman who lived five miles from the nearest store with pleasure to help her in her sewing, I don't care to spend time sampling—most ungrateful business anyhow—or to go bargaining for things found in every country store at pretty nearly City prices. There is real pleasure in the idea of hunting up check gingham for a mother who can't find any for her children's aprons, or buying a ready made dress for some one who can't sew, or helping a boy to minerals for his cabinet, and I hope any one who wishes will feel free to ask for what they can't find at home to suit, knowing my best interests at their service. Those women who write asking if work can be sent them from the City, I must ask to consider how much *they* would feel like sending work to a perfect stranger at a distance, without so much as a stitch to show the ability of the applicant. A fine linen bit of stitching, embroidery or knitting, would show one's skill as well as a large piece. I know nothing more desirable than to help women in dull country places where there is very little demand for work to any competition they can follow at home. There is no work so much in demand as hand knitting of the finest kind, for woman's and children's stockings and mittens. It is hard to find those who know how to knit well, to shape a stocking or knit with the right elastic stitch, neither too tight nor too loose. I know of orders where the wool would be furnished and the work paid for liberally, that have been standing unfilled for months, for want of capable knitters. A pair of child's stockings of the finest saxony yarn sent out for knitting, came back so badly shaped, that they had to be unraveled from top to toe the first thing. Wristlets in plain dark red or blue fine wool sell well, and a zephyr in 10 cents for the trade (some of 20) skeins, and fine yarns are cheap, women could make a little home industry at small expense.

THE BLESSED BEE.

I wish those who wish for some plan of making money in a small way could read a little book lately published, which the author in a fulness of gratitude which anyone will understand after reading the story, has given the above title. It professes to be the experience of a Michigan college student called home to take the head of affairs and provide for the family, on an 80 acre Michigan farm. He was ambitious of comfort and culture for the rest of the family, for which there seemed little chance on the small farm, when he came upon a few stands of bees, which had been his father's pets, and going to the book to learn how to winter them, he was struck with the profits claimed for bee keeping, as most persons will be not familiar with hives. The product from 10 swarms had been over 70 pounds of comb honey spiece worth 20 cents a pound, with an increase of seven swarms. This would seem like a fair profit to start on, being 35 per cent.

But growing interested in the subject the young fellow takes to studying about bees, and the end is, that in a business fashion, he begins the next year with 37 swarms, one Italian, gets improved hives, extractors, feeders etc., and with close careful management, which he details with almost painful minuteness at every step, makes the following handsome account of his investment. Bees, hives marketing etc, $820 51. Cash for honey $2 993 31, beside $800 worth of bees Now, in addition to this common sense story, add the quotations from the *American Bee Journal*, over well known names, such as this, "With a small number of hives I have realized $30 per swarm"—from J. M. Stephenson, Crawford County, Penn. "Mrs. L. B Baker, of Lansing, Mich., says that her first year in keeping bees she had two swarms, which gave her a profit of $51.50 per swarm, the next year $20.80, and the next, 1876, $40.65 each," and see if a profit can be made even in a small way.

SOME PLAIN TALK.

If the girls who distract editors writing to know what profession to adopt to make a livelihood, would let a little clear common sense into their heads, and take to some occupation like housekeeping or flower gardening, or keeping a green-house, it would save the world and themselves some bitter disappointments. The stage, towards which every pretty girl who passes in amateur theatricals, turns her ambition in secret, exacts of the actress without influential friends and money to back her, such a penance of humiliation, insolence and hardening, where it is not absolutely demoralizing, that I wonder any woman, with a woman's physique and feeling, survives it. Very few supreme have the force and talent of Clara Cole, who has made herself such a favorite in Cincinnati the last season, and who in her third year takes Shakespearean characters to support a capable actor on a starring tour. A woman's public successes are not to be envied. Not for Charlotte Cushman's fame would many women want Charlotte Cushman's career. And newspapers are now hardly a shade more tolerable than the stage. Editors, at least New York editors, have not lost the habits of gentlemen toward the women they employ as stage managers have, but how would any woman of taste fancy the directions once given me by the editor of a provincial weekly, 'Don't have any morals in your work, or any ideas.' I craved light on this extraordinary demand, and begged for an example. He pointed to one of the most notorious women on the press, whose brazen indecencies and blackmailing amounted to a scandal. "Get up something like that. Spicy! Our folks, all country folks like that."

But, I objected, it was perfectly well known that the writer in question boasted she invented most of her New York news.

"All the same, make yours up too. Only make it high enough. The people'll like it all the same."

I hope he maligned his subscribers. As a matter of taste, it is bad policy for a writer to rely on his imagination for facts, as what he serves is apt like hotel cookery, to taste as it it was "all cooked in one pot," or like the country bill of fare, to consist of "ram, lamb, sheep and mutton" Another time, I asked the same editor why he allowed a certain washy scribbler to disgrace the paper. "Oh that kind of work pleases the people. They don't know the difference from good writing."

How would you like to have it deliberately proposed to you to go to a political Convention to worm secret information out of the delegates for the benefit of the paper for which you corresponded? Perhaps you would have felt it a compliment to your powers of penetration and diplomacy. A shrewd old editor gave me a lesson about that once. He was a man who had driven four-in-hand in politics since he was of age, and knew what he was talking about: "Women like to dabble in politics," he said, sarcastically, "and feel as if they had an influence. The new men think they can get a woman to do great work for them, but the old hands laugh at it. When a woman most thinks she is exerting an influence in politics, she is being made use of, by the very men who will throw her off like a soiled glove when they've got the service they want out of her. Women in politics play the part of cats-paws to pull the chestnuts out of the fire."

Had I sought to enter journalism as a profession I should believe some of the bitter knowledge it has brought was a judgment for vanity and discontent with humbler things. As it is, better the German market woman bending over her cabbages and salad in the dew than the woman who has her way to make in contact with the rivalries and coarseness of professions that depend on the public, if women study their own peace, dignity and profit, let them take to what I firmly believe will soon become the great occupation for them, gardening or light farming, poultry raising or bee keeping. "The Blessed Bees" show farming in the pleasanter light it is beginning to wear under intelligent management. John Allen's experience, which is as literal as any description of farm life can be, portrays not alone the drudgery, but the enthusiasm, the care and pride that goes into a true farmer's life, and it shows, too, how certainly the profits and more than the profits of any ordinary profession can be made in one of its enterprises alone. As a first book on beekeeping, to present its processes and returns in just and attractive light, sending one to the standard authorities to fill out its suggestions, nothing could be better imagined. It is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

SOME NEW MUSIC.

While Capt. Paul Boyton was swimming the Mediterranean from Capri to Naples, 17 miles against tide, with nothing but a double bladed oar between him and the bottom of the sea, Siragusa, the composer, while awaiting him at Naples, to pass the time, improvised a air, full of the conflicting feelings raised by the daring feat, from which he doubted his friend would ever return alive. Tais he afterward wrote out and presented to Capt. Boyton on his reception at Naples. The music was given by the Captain to a young American friend of whom he was very fond, who has published it as a polka-galop, with the title in lengthy Italian fashion of "Captain Boyton on the Wave." Though not difficult, it is a fascinating, variable air, with much grace and sentiment. A finely drawn lithograph, which sketches Capt. Boyton in swimming dress in various feats, signalling, floating with his umbrella sail, and lunching, adds more to the interest of the title page than illustrations usually do. An effective song, after the style of Balse's favorite music, is, "I'll not Forget the One Who is all the World to Me," with Madame Clara Brinkerhoff's careful rendition, which insures its ease for the voice. Both the above are published by C. M. Brinkerhoff, New York.

SHIRLEY DARE.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

The Potter Committee Still Pottering—Gen. Willard Warner—The Transfer of the Indian Bureau—The Breeze About Southern Claims—The Arlington Estate—Yellow Fever.

Correspondence Toledo Blade.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1879.

The Potter Committee has fallen into the old Democratic rut and is "still harping on my daughter." It is so infatuated with the idea of Republican frauds, that it refuses to look anywhere else till it has found something there. Everybody supposed that, when it asked Congress for *ten thousand more* in order to investigate the apparent revelations of the cypher dispatches, it would go straight to its work and let us know what there was in the story which the dispatches told. But they have no stomach for that kind of work and have at once taken up the old thread under the settled conviction that it was not Mr. Tilden that was trying to buy the Presidency but Mr. Hayes—that any rascality must necessarily be in the Republican party and that the ciphers which are to be investigated are not those of Marble and Weed and Pelton, but those of Chandler, Tyner and Brady.

The hunt, thus far, has turned out even worse than that which brought up Mrs. Jenks, Anderson, Webber, and St. Martin. The lead which they followed with so much anxiety has ended in a water-haul, and the Democratic mind is still unappeased. The Committee showed the greatest possible curiosity as to how the dispatches got into the hands of the *Tribune*, but very little curiosity as to what they developed. Alex. H. Stephens told the people of Georgia, after the rebellion, that they were very much in the condition of a man who had broken his leg and was suffering from a bad compound fracture. His principal anxiety, Mr. Stephens thought, would not be as to how the leg got broken, but how he should be relieved of his pain and accomplish his cure. But the Potter Committee are chiefly anxious to find out now the leg got broken—by what means the dispatches got out. Their theory is that the wrong was not in the attempt to bribe and buy, but in revealing that attempt to the public. They refused yesterday, by a party vote, to call any of the copyreaders to Washington, but they are to have an examination before the sub-committee in New York.

Meantime fraud is rapidly becoming one of the much vaunted "Democratic principles." The Florida case, referred to last week, is a case exactly in point. It turns out that Mr. Bisbe, the Republican candidate in the Second District, was elected by about 600 majority but that Mr. Hull (not Hall) got the certificate through a very bunging series of frauds and the friendly co-operation of the Democratic Governor. Certain frauds have been detected and some of the guilty parties sentenced to the State prison; and Hull, himself, is under indictment with a good prospect of keeping them company; but the wrong done to Mr. Bisbe, the Democratic Governor refuses to undo; although the same Court that ordered a re-count in his case and gave him his position as Goverr or is the agent in the case of Mr. Bisbe—that is to say, it ordered the Board of Canvassers to make a re-count, after the frauds had been legally ascertained, which they did, and declared Mr. Bisbe elected. But the Governor refused to recall the certificate given to Hull at first, if he is not lodged in the State prison, he will be on hand to help organize the new Congress.

Sen Morgan, of Alabama, had the ear of the Senate on Thursday on the resolution offered by Mr. Edmunds in relation to the new constitutional amendments. It will be remembered that the Democrats considered his resolutions in caucus, and in accordance with the caucus agreement, offered a series of strong State rights amendments. The Senator's speech was therefore in the old Democratic strain and seemed to be regarded with high favor by his partizan auditory. Once only he was interrupted and that was on making the assertion that in New Hampshire men were denied the right to vote if they held to the Catholic faith in religion. Sen. Rollins, at once arose and informed him that he was mistaken and that no such regulation existed. Mr. Morgan then corrected himself and remembered that it was not in voting but in being debarred from holding office. Mr. Rollins told him that he was wrong again. He then enquired how long it was since the exclusion had been repealed, and there was quite a sensation at his expense when he was told it took place when the Republicans came into power. Sen. Edmunds will now be heard, but probably not before next week, as the New York Custom House matter is at present absorbing the attention of the Senate.

You will notice that Gen. Willard Warner, formerly of Newark, O., but now Alabama, has been designated by the President, among a number of other gentlemen, to examine as to the fineness and weight of the money coined during the last year. The commission is to meet in Philadelphia on the 12th of February.

The Special Joint Committee appointed to consider the policy of transferring the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the Department of War, have taken a large amount of testimony but have not come to a harmonious conclusion. For some unexplained reason the Democrats are in favor of the transfer and the Republicans are opposed to it. There will consequently be two reports, and probably no change for the present. The Committee consists of three Senators and five members—making eight, who are equally divided. The Republicans oppose the transfer, but recommend that the Sioux and all other Indians manifesting a warlike purpose be put by the President under the orders of the War Department, so long as their warlike purpose continues. But whenever they are unmistakably disposed to peace that they be remanded to the Interior again.

The storm raised by the speech of Gen. Bragg, of Wisconsin, continues to rage, and there are several Southern men who are very impatient to get the door, but are ruled down by those Democrats who are trying to keep the peace. But the storm is only rolled back for the present. It is sure to burst soon, and will come with the greater fury for having been delayed. The street rumor is that Bragg means to stand by his position and will be sustained by a number of other Northern Democrats. Meantime the Southern element is very feverish and impatient, while the Republicans look on with the coolness of the woman whose husband fought the bear—not caring which gets whipped.

But the speech of Senator Hill of Georgia indicates that the South, even is not unanimous in regard to Southern claims. He took the ground that what we call loyalty was an offense to the South, and hence the South did not desire that loyal men should be specially favored by the Government. The patriotic men were the men that stood by the rebellion and as they were cut off from any share in Government, claims he was against all war claims and was willing to put them out of reach by an amendment to the constitution.

The suit instituted by a son of the late Robert E. Lee to recover possession of the Arlington estate, on which so many of our dead heroes are buried, has proved successful before a Virginia court, but has been appealed to the National court at Washington. The property was bought for a small sum at a tax sale during the war, and Secretary Stanton, one of our ablest lawyers, always maintained that the title had been made perfectly secure. Of course, now that the war is over and the rebels have been conciliated there is a pretty general feeling that the Government should not hold the property without making full compensation. The heirs do not ask to resume possession, but they want the value in money. It seems to be the opinion of many that the decision of the Virginia Court was against both the law and the evidence, and everybody would expect the Supreme Court to overrule it; but law is governed by sympathy and conciliation. Hence the action of the Supreme Court is doubtful.

The Yellow Fever Commission has made its report, but does not regard its labors as completed. It is understood that they will ask Congress for the appointment of a new Commission, and an appropriation of $100,000, with the view of following up the subject, and getting at the bottom facts. It appears that the fever comes, with almost absolute uniformity, from the West Indies, and it is thought that a commission should be appointed to follow it there and ascertain its habits at the place where it is generated.

There was a high old time during the secret session of the Senate on Friday while the New York nominations were under consideration, but the administration had a victory in the postponement of action till Monday. The result is not, however, definitely foreshadowed.

The old Grant Senators who were discarded to bring in the "era of good feeling" are coming back again and the Republican minority of the next Senate will be more "stalwart" than ever before—Conkling, Logan, Carpenter, Chandler, Cameron, Ingalls—that is the way they run. "Coming events cast their shadows before." BUCKEYE.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE.

The President Gives His Reasons for the Removal of Arthur and Cornell.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The following is the President's message, sent to the Senate to-day, relative to the nominations of Collector Arthur and Naval Officer Cornell:

"To the Senate:

"I transmit herewith the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to the suspension of the late Collector and Naval Officer of the Port of New York, with the accompanying documents. In addition thereto I respectfully submit the following observations: The Custom House in New York collects more than two-thirds of all the customs and revenues of the Government. Its administration is a matter, not of local interest merely, but is of great importance to the people of the whole country; for a long period of time it has been used to manage and control political affairs. The officers suspended by me are, and for several years have been, engaged in the active, personal management of the party politics of the City and State of New York. The duties of the offices held by them have been regarded as of subordinate importance to the partisan work. Their offices have been conducted as a part of the political machinery under their control. They have made the custom house the center of this partisan political management. The custom house should be a business office; it should be conducted on business principles. Col. James, Postmaster of New York City, writing on this subject says: 'The postoffice is a business institution, and should be run as such. It is my deliberate judgment that I and my subordinates can do more for the party of our choice by giving the people of this City a good and efficient postal service, than by controlling the primaries or dictating the nominations." The New York Custom House should be placed on the same rooting with the New York Postoffice; but under the suspended officers the Custom House will be one of the political agencies in the State of New York. To change this they profess to believe that it would be, in the language of Cornell in his response, "to surrender their personal and political rights." I am convinced that the people of New York, and the country generally, wish the New York Custom House to be administered solely with a view to the public interest. It is my purpose to do all in my power to introduce these great office reforms which the country desires. With my information of the facts in the case, and with a sense of the responsible obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution, to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." I regarded it as my plain duty to suspend the officers in question and make the nominations now before the Senate, in order that these important offices may be honestly and efficiently administered. R. B. HAYES."

"Executive Mansion, Jan. 31, 1879."

There was a young man in the city,
Whose pants were so nice 't were a pity
To tell them: but witty
Boys 's uttered the pretty
Light lavender pants. Hence this ditty.
—*N. Y. Mail.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

A History of the Two Americas—Other Literature—New Books Received.

"THE HISTORY OF THE TWO AMERICAS," EDITED BY PROF. S. L. WILLIAMS, A. L. COBURN & CO., CHICAGO.

No ordinary review can do justice to this great work, the only complete history of North and South America ever published. The public has too long been surfeited with mere skeletons of history, in which characters and incidents are so briefly sketched as to awaken no interest. The real charm of history consists in its fullness of detail. The causes of events are often as important as the events themselves. To this work the best writers of the age have contributed, making it a perfect library of historic research. Commencing with the Biographies of the Discoveries, it contains the lives of all the early voyagers to this country, from the Icelanders who visited the coast of America five hundred years before Columbus, down to the Pilgrim Fathers. This is followed by a full and exhaustive history of South America, Central America and Mexico, from their earliest discoveries; a description of their inhabitants, scenery, etc., and theories concerning their earliest population; the Conquest of Mexico by Cortez; an achievement which displayed more courage, endurance and ability to command than any example in modern warfare. Like Hannibal, he burned his ships on the shores of a strange and hostile country, that there should be no chance of retreat; Pisarro's Conquest of Peru, which for reckless daring, cruelty, and sudden acquisition of vast wealth by military power, admits no parallel in the world's history. The conquests of Mexico and Peru by the Spaniards are very romance of history. Fiction is shorn of its laurels, and even he pages of tradition tell no tales more wonderful and interesting. The whole history of South America is indeed full of the strongest interest; the luxuriance of its soil; the primitive manners of its natives; the pomp, magnificence and cruelty of its conquerors, all form a series of historical pictures and images that powerfully affect the mind. The Spanish Colonies are traced through their gradual decline, their struggle for independence and ultimate success; separation of Brazil into an independent monarchy; war between Spain and the Republics of Chili and Peru, and a review of the present condition of the South American countries. Perhaps no part of this work will have fresher attraction for the reader than that which reveals the vast and varied resources of Brazil—in size second only to the Russian Empire. Like that country, her vast area includes great mountain ranges, mighty rivers and extensive plains. But, unlike Russia, she is a world of luxuriant vegetation, richest foliage, flowers, fruits and grains, of silver and diamonds, of valuable colored woods and rich spices. Almost entirely undeveloped, it bids fair to become the home of many of our enterprising citizens; and what India has been to England, South America may yet be to us—a source of unbounded wealth. The History of North America is the most complete, interesting and impartial work upon this country we have ever examined. It begins with the discoveries and traces the rise and progress of the Colonies from the settlements, through all their hardships, dissensions, wars with the Indians and the tyrannical oppression of their rulers, to their rebellion and establishment of an independent Government. This is followed by a carefully written history of the United States from the revolution down to the present administration. The History of the Rebellion alone, would make three ordinary volumes of 450 pages each. A general summary of the developments of the country in agriculture, manufactories, domestic and foreign trade, etc., etc., adds much practical information of interest to every one. The work closes with a Cyclopedia of American History and Biography, chronologically arranged, the only one of its kind extant. This is compiled from standard authors, and presents all the events of American history in the order of their occurrence, enabling the reader to fix the exact date of any event instantly. This alone places the work above all other histories yet written as a book of reference. We all know how difficult it is to remember dates. Only a few of the most prominent dates in American history remain fixed in our mind. By occasional reference to this Chronology it is surprising how much one will improve in this respect and how many facts of history can be brought before the mind in a short space of time. The beauty of its illustrations is a matter of genuine surprise to us. It contains 34 full page steel engravings, making it by far the finest illustrated history known to us. The illustrations are not pictures to help fill up the book, but each one is an explantory of the text and shows how much more interesting any subject can be made by being properly illustrated. The work makes a book of almost 900 imperial quarto pages, and taking into consideration the excellence of the material, it seems to us to be the cheapest work for sale in this country. We have been so curious as to make an estimate of the actual amount of letter press in this handsome quarto volume and find that it would make more than 15 ordinary octavo books of 450 pages each. The size of the page and manner of printing is such that the book can easily contain this amount of matter. It is larger than Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, closely printed, three columns to the page. It inaugurates a new era in the book business—that of giving a large amount of matter at a moderate cost, and meets a want that has long been felt. The many-volumed histories are too expensive for most families, and the low priced works have always been mere abridgments. But by this manner of publishing "The Two Americas," a complete history of two continents is furnished for less than the cost of a full history of the Rebellion printed in the usual way. We agree with Headly in his introduction to the work. "It should be in every household school and library."

No history of America can ever supplant this great work, for the materials are so well managed, the information so varied, the philozophical reflections so just and striking, and the narative so graceful that nothing could be added but mere details destitute of any interest. The mechanical part of the work is first-class in every respect, not only in paper, printing and illustration, but in binding, the latter being the strongest and most durable possible and very handsome. It is sold by subscription, and is just the work for a school teacher, or any intelligent man to introduce with success.

THE PORTFOLIO.

While engraving has made no especial progress during the past few years, the art of etching which at one time stood so high is again coming to the front, and some remarkable work has been executed. In England and Continental Europe etching has recently attained a high degree of excellence and popularity, and we are pleased to see that the efforts made to secure its introduction into this country are meeting with deserved success. Its great superiority over line engraving lies chiefly in its use as a means of reproducing, not only the outlines, but the spirit and tones of the works of the artist upon canvass. Hence it is now used largely in the leading art publications of Europe and this country. Some of the finest specimens of etchings we have ever seen are given in the London "Portfolio," an artistic periodical edited by Philip Gilbert Hamerton, the well known English art critic, himself a highly successful etcher. This admirable periodical is now in its 10th year and has achieved a world-wide reputation. The January number, has just made its appearance, commencing a new volume. The illustrations consist of a remarkably striking portrait of Capt. Burton, the famous traveller, etched in a masterly manner by Leopold Flameng after a painting by Sir Frederick Leighton, President of the English Royal Academy. "Oxford Castle," painted by A. Lang, is reproduced in an etching of marvelous depth and delicacy by A. Brunet Debaines. The gem of the illustrations is Paul Rajon's exquisite etching of Lady Hamilton after Romney's famous painting. M. Rajon stands in the front rank of modern etchers, and the present example is in every respect worthy of his great reputation. The remaining illustrations comprise two views of Bocardo, Oxford. These illustrations are fully described in the accompanying text. The number contains an interesting retrospect of European art for 1878 by P. G. Hamerton and others. The letter press of the *Portfolio* is a marvel of beauty and harmonizes admirably with the illustrations. This periodical appeals strongly to the patronage and support of every person of cultivated taste and art lovers in particular. Mr. J. W. Bouton, No. 706 Broadway, New York, is the authorized agent for the *Portfolio* in this country.

HAND-BOOK of POLITICS for 1878-79, by Edward McPherson. Solomons & Chapman, Washington, D. C.

The series of political manuals edited by Mr. McPherson are the most valuable aids to the politician and the intelligent citizen who seek to keep thoroughly posted in political affairs. The present volume includes the period between July 15th 1876 and July 15 1878, a most important period in the political history of the country. It contains a careful record of all votes in Congress touching the matter of the Electoral Commission; of the action of the Forty-fifth Congress on all phases of the financial question, together with judicial decisions, Presidential papers, and a valuable array of statistical matter pertaining to Banking, Imports and Exports, the Public Debt, etc., etc. Mr. McPherson's long acquaintance with Congressional matters, as Clerk of the House of Representatives affords the best endorsement for the thoroughness and accuracy of the work.

THE BANKER'S ALMANAC AND REGISTER FOR 1879, edited by Benjamin Homans. Price $3. I. S. Homans, New York.

It is difficult to see how any banker or business man can well do without a copy of the Banker's Almanac and Register. The name of "Almanac" is hardly enough for a volume which includes a compilation of financial facts and statistics of the most important character, while the register of National, State, and private banks is no less important. Among its contents are to be found synopses of the insolvency and interest laws and statutes of limitation in all the States of the Union, thus giving information which can ordinarily be obtained only after long and tedious search.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The BLADE takes pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following new books, either through the publishers direct or as otherwise stated:

A Hand-book of Politics for 1878, being a record of important political action, National and State, from July, 1876, to July, 1878: by Edward McPherson. Solomons & Chapman, Washington, D. C.

Tales from the German of Paul Heyse; (paper covers), price, 60 cents. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

Jean Teterol's Ides; a novel, from the French of Victor Cherbuliez. (Paper covers), price, 60 cents. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

Nadeschs, a poem in nine cantos, by John Ludvig Runeberg, translated from the Swedish by Maria A. Brown. Published by the Translator, P. O. Box 900, Boston.

The White Horse of Wootton, a story of love, sport and adventure, by Charles J. Foster. Price, $1.50. Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

Freeide Encyclopedia of Poetry, edited by Henry T. Coates; imperial octavo, cloth extra, 982 pages, full gilt edges. Price, $5.00. Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

Eclectic Short-Hand, a new system, by J. G. Cross. A. M. Price, $2.00. S. C. Griggs & Co. Chicago, Ills.

Cupid and the Sphinx, a novel, by Harford Flemming Price, $1 25; George P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

Thirty Years at Sea, the story of a sailor's life, by E. Shippen, U. S. N. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

What is the Bible, by J. T. Sanderland, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

His Heart's Desire, a novel. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

THROUGH W. W. WHITNEY.

Mason's Piano Forte Technics, including a new and complete treatment of scale and arpeggio forms etc., by William Mason. Price, $2 50; Oliver Dison & Co., Boston.

RIVER AND HARBOR.

The Sub-Committee Has Prepared a Schedule of the Appropriations to be Asked for for the Upper Lake Harbors.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The River and Harbor Sub-Committee has finished the schedule of the appropriations to be asked for for the harbors in the Upper Lake region, and will present it to the Committee on Commerce in a few days. The following are the sums recommended by it:

Chicago harbor	$50,000	Cleveland	$50,000
Illinois River	20 000	Ashtabula	8, 00
Calumet River	30,000	Erie, Pa	20,000
Michigan City harbor	25,000	Black Wirk	10,000
St. Clair Flats Canal	3,00	Buffalo	50,000
Saginaw River	15,000	St. Joseph, Mich.	10,000
Cheboygan harbor	8,000	Ontonagon, Mich	10,000
St. Clair River	1,500	Eagle Harbor	2,000
Grand Haven	10,000	Marquette	5,000
Muskegon, Mich	10,000	Menomenee, Wis	10,000
Racine	10,000	Green Bay, Wis	12,000
Manistee	10,000	Milwaukee	15,000
Beach Lake harbor	10,000	Racine	10,000
Lindington	5,000	Kenosha	10,000
South Haven	10,000	Charlevoix	12,000
Pentwater	12,000	Muskegon	8,000
White River harbor	12 000	Ahnapee	4,000
Saugatuck	10 000	Sturgeon Bay Canal	10,000
Toledo harbor	15,000	Two Rivers, Wis	10,000
Sandusky har'r.	1,000	Manitowoc	15 000
Monroe	5,000	Cheboygan	10,000
Port Clinton	10,000	Port Washington	5,000
		Fox and Wisconsin Rivers	250 000
		St. Mary's Canal	250,000

STEWART'S BODY.

Judge Hilton States Positively that It Has Not Been Found.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The Star to day says:

In conversation with a prominent citizen Judge Hilton said:

"I have not yet got the body. Of course, there were several people who informed me they were following clews, all of them of a separate and distinct nature, which would lead finally to the recovery of the body. I have no confidence in any of them. I have no doubt I will be able to get the body in the end, but thus far our efforts have not resulted in the recovery."

In the course of further inquiries it was gathered that private detectives are still at work in the search, and confidence is entertained in their ultimate success. The most important clue yet found is one that locates the thieves in Brooklyn, their plunder very probably being in the suburbs of the city. This trail is being followed up at the present time with the utmost diligence. Some well-known Brooklyn residents are being watched by the detectives, who have information pointing to their knowledge of the crime, and of the exact place where the body is concealed, even while they may had no hand in the robbery, but were subsequently made confidants of the parties who committed the crime.

AMERICAN CATTLE.

England has Not Forbidden their Importation.

NEW YORK, Feb

The Household.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this Department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write Household Department on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Post Office address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.

4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

Facts for Housekeepers.

No. 13.

When I undertake to write or say anything about children that may sound in the way of advice, or that the problem, "how to take care of them," has worked itself out fully with me, I am reminded of what I once heard Dr. Kittredge, of Chicago, say in his pulpit: "I used to think it my duty to preach upon the management and care of children, thinking I had a theory that might be adopted in every family, but now I have children of my own, I have nothing more to say upon the subject." So while we cannot lay down rules for all children, we may be helps to each other by giving some of our experience. There have been several appeals from mothers in the household about amusing children, or rather teaching them to amuse themselves, it is in regard to this that I wish to throw out a few hints. Children should not be left to the care of servants, provided there are plenty in the home. They cannot take the place of the mother; when left to do so, the effect is always pernicious. The first five or six years of a child's life usually molds him for all eternity; therefore this is the parent's opportunity. A child should never be allowed to say or play anything because it seems so "cunning" that he will in the near future have to be corrected for. This is a great error, and one that many parents fall into with a child's first lisping words. They think by and by is time enough to correct faults, and do not realize that ANY seed sown in youth MUST spring up and yield fruit. So is it not better to teach good words—to sow good seed?

Few children can be turned entirely upon their own resources for amusement; but a mother may lead them by spending very little time. She can suggest and approve. What little one builds a block house or puts a doll in order without calling to mamma to "look," Mamma should look—it is her duty, with an encouraging word or smile. Where means are plenty and toys numerous it is well to hide a part for a time, and then bring them out with new interest. My little boys will amuse themselves for hours with spools or blocks upon the window-sill, arranged as trains of cars, though it is expected that mamma will look up from her work as the trains arrive at the stations. There is nothing like a mother learning to be interrupted in her work, and then resuming the thread of whatever she may be doing.

A simple amusement within the reach of all is paper dolls, costing only a penny a package. For instance, my children had the Mulligan Guards, Dame Trot and Miss Felicia. After cutting the sets all out, they arranged them in tableaux with endless fun. Dame Trot would be the mother and one of the Mulligan Guards her son going to the war. Then she would be left to go into camp where all the soldiers were, and meet her son, or find him lying down dying or dead, perhaps Miss Felicia, dressed in her best, would be married to one of the soldiers, and so on in endless pictures.

These tableaux may be arranged from newspaper illustrations to crown all, though it need's mamma's "very nice," "very funny," "try again and see how you can surprise me." With the plays continual wisdom may be woven without laying down the needle or taking busy hands from the flour. I am indebted to a friend stopping with me for a very simple, yet useful game. Cut good-sized letters from newspapers, having each separate, then select letters to spell a certain word and give them to another to put together; any number can play; or one may cut out words and give a complete sentence to another to arrange.

Another game, give the first letter of some object in sight and have others guess. Or those studying geography may give the first letter of some City or River in a certain State. The map may have to be consulted, but it will do no harm.

"My ship is in," is interesting. The company should form in a circle, a handkerchief is tossed to one with the words, "My ship is in." "What is it loaded with?" asks the receiver of the handkerchief. "Charcoal" is the answer of something beginning with C, and so on until the receiver can only think of anything beginning with that letter, he is out. The goes on until all are out. Any letter may be used. I think I have suggested enough to start the young folks of the Household playing, if any more games are needed, call on me. Parents, do not forget to play with them. Let them bring their friends to the warmest and brightest room of the house, and you will know who their associates are. Whether it is chess, dominoes or cards, play with them, and they will not go off to bams, fence corners and saloons to learn. The charm of stealing such things will be broken, and soon they would rather read or hear you read books of your own choosing. Right here is a subject for a column, the importance of putting the best reading in the way of the young. Parents, you are responsible for the characters of your children. Watch them every minute though unknown to them. It is the only way to save them. You cannot turn them off. They need you. It is your moods that stamp and mold them for life. Yours is a high office.

ELIZA GILBERT HURD.

Galesburgh, Ills.

Dancing.

I am glad that the subject of dancing is under discussion. If it's wrong, many young people are in danger; if it's right many are losing lots of fun. I think I can convince you that the loss is one that all good people can well afford. It is wrong in itself because it is so exhilarating that the mind, under the influence of the strange intoxication, is unfit for the duties of life. True many young and innocent people do dance and escape immediate danger; and so do many young men get beastly intoxicated and are watched over so carefully by friends that they escape immediate danger; but no one will presume to say drunkenness is innocent. Observe closely and you will notice that young people who dance and thus escape, are under the influence of good fathers, mothers, or friends who have all they can do to keep them from greater evils or ruin. The amusements at play parties are almost or entirely innocent from the fact that they are many of them too silly and too easily forgotten to effect the mind one way or the other. Dancing brings the young and innocent into bad company. T. P. Bothwell says: "I take it that when refined and intelligent people make a party, it is fair to presume that such care and discretion is exercised as will bring together only congenial spirits, who are on equality in a social and moral point of view." The logic is good, but the innocence is most prominent. I have been in many States, I have lived in many different places for more than half a century, and I must say that all the care and discretion that refined and intelligent people can exercise, will not and cannot bring together only the spirits, who are on an equality with themselves morally and socially, except in a city under good police regulations. There it is doubtful.

In the country a young girl may have a birth-day party and select her company; but let it be known that she is to have a dance or that a dance is to be held anywhere under any circumstances, and the whole matter is changed. The sacredness of home and individual rights is no longer known. The boisterous dance. They invite each other. The drunken, the dissipated and the reckless are on hand. Many good young men come without invitation, because the customs of the country make bidding unnecessary. The bottle is hidden near, and drunken rows are not uncommon. The libertine, with his smooth tongue, is sure to be there. It is useless for good people to protest, for they are peaceable and anxious to avoid the friction necessary to secure them their rights. This evil is growing as all old people know. We may safely say that only civil country dances are held where money is the real object. Policing is necessary, and is usually well done or there would be no ball. All that is required is money to pay the bill and good behavior for the time being. Such balls are not elevating, though they are highly enjoyable. The animal love of excitement is satisfied, but the dance itself has no restraining influence upon the morbid impulses so common to young people.

Dancing is positively demoralizing. No one ever heard of a wicked man or woman being reformed and elevated by it; but its worst sin is not the sin of failure. If young modest girls could hear the coarse jests and observations that come from the lips of the average frequenters of dances when out of their company, they would agree with me. It is demoralizing because all intense excitement of such a kind is opposed to purity. Dancing, as carried on, is unscriptual. There were two kinds of dancing spoken of in scripture; a religious exercise and an obscene exhibition, much worse than anything known at the present day. "Praising God with the dance," is not the same exercise that cost John the Baptist, his head. A drunken Herod was so overcome with the sight of the voluptuous exhibition that he was ready to promise half his kingdom. The dance of David was displeasing only to an envious woman who had stolen a look through a window, but the men of God rejoiced at the sight. No women were permitted to see him. He had exchanged the heavy, manly and soldierly garb for the beautiful linen ephod, which encircled his loins. He slapped his hands together and shouted the praises of God in set phrases and in pleasing measures of poetry. He, no doubt, jumped high, "with all his might;" and whenever he paused to take breath, he was answered by shouts, blasts of trumpets and sacred responses, the music of instruments and the shouts of the people. There was such an excitement as comes only once in a century. * * * As the ark moved on, at the end of every 18 or 20 feet, one of the most solemn of religious services known to the Jews took place; yet this dance is quoted as a reason why young and innocent boys and girls should go where the amusement is questionable if not dangerous.

How shall young people enjoy themselves when they meet for innocent amusement? A very important question, and one which generally decides the fate of a nation. There are so many ways that are unquestionably innocent, that parents have no excuse for permitting their children to go where the good are often made bad and the bad are never made good. The pursuit of knowledge, the study of the sciences, attending lectures, parlor entertainments, etc., etc., will furnish sufficient amusement for the young. There are endless varieties of parlor entertainments, a few of which might be furnished by the readers of the Household.

Kissing parties are not at all elevating, yet the amusement is as near neutral as it can be. A young man, ever so reckless, will seldom leave his card playing and sweating companions in order to intrude himself, without invitation, into his neighbor's home for a mere play party.

In conclusion, I am willing to admit that I am poor in experience but I am rich in observation. The many I knew nearly fifty years ago, who were devoted to dancing, those who weaned themselves from the sport are now far better off than the few who gave their whole soul and their best days to the cause. Of the latter I could name a few who are now miserably poor and without a home. It is a costly sin.

JONATHAN HUNT.

An Old Friend Once More.

I have been trying to think of the name of the lady who inquired some weeks ago about temperance work, but I have forgotten it, and the paper is gone, and as I want to talk with her a little this evening and can't personally, will have to beg a corner in the Household. Our Temperance Union was organized the time of the Murphy movement two years ago, numbers over a 100 members, and has kept up its meetings once a week ever since.

Sometimes we have a lecture, generally from some minister who loves the cause, and comes free of charge, except the society paying his expenses.

Often we have remarks and addresses from our home people, thus utilizing our home talent, old and young both taking part. Lately there has been an effort to manage something after the manner of a literary society and have readings, recitations, essays, etc. One of our neighboring towns has a society which has been conducted in that way for some time and is pronounced a perfect success.

I think our main object in the temperance union is to get the young interested: instill good sound temperance, yes total abstinence principles in the little boys and girls of to-day, for in such a little time they grow up to take our places and the grave responsibilities of manhood and womanhood,

Of course there are many things to discourage people in trying to keep up an organization of this kind. The grumblers and croakers who say, "What good do you expect to do? temperance is a worn-out theme; you can't keep up the interest, &c., &c.

Then there are many who have talent and influence, but who from some cause or other do not "lend a helping hand" as they ought to do. Again, oftentimes, especially in a small community, there will be petty prejudices and differences of opinion between families and individuals to be overcome; all must unite and work in harmony, "in honor preferring one another, co-workers in one common cause."

I have thought sometimes that our society would have gone down many times had it not been for two grand, good old men whose example will surely gain reward. Rain or shine they are always in their places, and so enthusiastic that the lagging ones take fresh heart, are encouraged, and on we go again.

I would love to hear the views of any of the ladies who are engaged in temperance work in any way. A letter to my address below, reaches me. Or perhaps we can hear from you through the Household; our kind lady editress will let us speak on this subject occasionally. I know, for will not strictly temperate principles inculcated in the many households, in our families, in the hearts of these little ones of ours be just so much help to a good state of morals in the future? in these times it seems to me a parent's responsibility is two-fold. Sometimes "The burden laid upon me

Seems greater than I can bear."

As I sat a few evenings ago rocking my baby boy asleep and very gloomily musing, I must confess,

"A flood of thoughts came o'er me.
That filled my eyes with tears."

—for mamma's arms couldn't always encircle the little boy and keep him out of the way of harm and temptation—the words of a good old Methodist hymn came into my mind with such force, that I guess it must have been an inspiration—

"The battle ne'er give o'er,
Renew it boldly every day,
And help divine implore."

Wasn't it Rosella who, a long time ago, advised us, when tired and discouraged, to strike up some rousing old hymn—"Coronation," for instance. I just now happened to think of it, and want to thank her right here for that letter in Arthur's Magazine years ago, for I have acted on the advice set forth therein a good many times and found it beneficial.

I've been looking patiently for Mrs. Eliza Gilbert Hurd's chapter on amusing children. Please hurry up. I don't suppose I'm nearly so bright as I might be, but I can't exactly see who or what Cipper is driving at, about "people who gossip about the hop at class-meeting." I have attended a good many class-meetings of both a business and religious nature, and it was not my impression, by any means, that the "hop" was the theme of discourse.

I want to say, too, that I am interested in these teachers' letters. I've been there myself a little, and you all have my sympathies.

That is a good idea of Bill's about requiring pupils to write on given subjects. Let us hear more about that; some of you enlarge on it.

If these wishing temperance clippings will address me, perhaps I can help them to some.

What can I use to take ink stains from a gold and ivory pen-holder, which I prize highly as a gift? If any one knows, please oblige me.

MRS. NELL.

Leech's Corners, Pa.

A Letter from Helena.

I have read the Household with interest and profit, but must say that I am glad the husbands and babies are at last allowed a rest, while waltzing, "kissing bees," exchanges, etc., claim their share of attention.

I will give Shirley Dare a description of my pieces of antiquated china. The finest is a creamer of a rich, beautiful bronze color. On one side is a picture of two sisters sitting on a mossy rustic seat, looking at a book; the smaller girl leaning confidingly against the larger one; back, and a little to the right of them is a queer, old-fashioned house, with low roof and very tall chimneys. In the upper right hand corner, far away in the distance, is the peak of a mountain. On the opposite side is the picture of a boy resting upon one knee on the shore of a lake into which he has thrown a stick and is waiting for his dog to fetch it; a little to the left the dog can be seen approaching with the stick in his mouth; near the upper right hand corner a fine old castle is nestling among the cliffs. These pictures are in pink and white, with a shrubbery of a pale green. The creamer is oddly shaped, and I can scarcely form any idea of its age; it formerly belonged to my great aunt, who used to live in some part of New York. The other piece is a sugar bowl, nearly egg-shaped, with the cover fitting in; it is simply mottled, blue and white.

Dear Woodmoss! Your words—"I cannot write of that sad passage in my life, which has made me old at 21" struck an answering chord in my own heart; I sympathize with, and understand your feelings in the only way in which one person *can* sympathize with another. Only try to think that it must be all for the best, or a kind father would not have permitted it to be so. Trouble is one sort of discipline, and every heart has its own; it is a lesson given by a loving teacher whose wisdom *never errs*, and blessed are those hearts that shall hear that loving voice say "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest; and ye shall find rest for your souls." (Who among us does not need this rest?) for they that hear and obey this loving invitation, shall come forth "Purified as by fire," ready to take up their lifework, to do the duty that lies nearest to them and leave the rest to God, even though the heart *will* sometimes ache. Read Miss Miss Mulock's "Gather up the fragments," it will help you.

I would like to tell the girls and women that have to do house work, how to make oversleeves. Take a little less than a yard of dark calico, tear about four inches off the side, then tear in two pieces, crosswise, each piece together and run a hem in each end; then run a piece of rubber cord in each hem and draw it up to fit the arm at the wrist and above the elbow, leaving a ruffle at the wrist, or gather into a band, and button at the wrist. This makes a neat pair of oversleeves; and every one knows what a bother it is to take off cuffs and roll up sleeves just to "wash a few dishes," or "make a few biscuits." The oversleeves are easily slipped off or on, and protect the cuffs and dress sleeves.

I would tell "Cousin Carrie" of a nice play without kissing for evening entertainment, but fear this letter is already too long. HELENA WILDWOOD.

Childhood.

Childhood's sunny days are gliding,
Silently away;
Leaving, on their noiseless pinion,
Only smiling bid them stay.
Hasten, long days, make us older,
Thoughtless children cry.
Leave, O leave me! we murmur,
As the years glide by.

Happy, sunny, thoughtless childhood,
Ever free from care,
As thou'rt leaving us forever,
For from thee we all must sever,
Think we what the morrow's bear?
They depart on ceaseless pinion
Equally, from high in station
Down to lowest minion.

O! we should enjoy our childhood,
Than we do, far more.
But our hearts are always turning,
Ever yearning, vainly turning,
Toward the Future's mystic shore.
Always lordly castles building
Reaching to the far blue ether,
Rich with fretted gilding.

But as Future becomes Present
And our hopes fulfilled,
Vanish yet still farther from us,
Glimmer faintly far beyond us,
Turn we to the real.
Sadly then we see we see
That our heart's best, fondest hope will
Never, never be.

ANNONE, Shirley, Kans.

"Mayflower" on Equal Rights, Etc.

The subject of "equal rights" is one of the leading questions of the day, and no doubt is of momentous importance. It behooves women as well as men, therefore, to weigh well the arguments, *pro* and *con*, so that when the time comes for a final decision, they will be prepared to take their stand firmly and unfalteringly on the side of right. I would like to hear this matter discussed in the Household. I have not quite decided which to side with. But just imagine a lady going to the polls to cast her vote, or perhaps peddle nomination tickets, or getting into a dispute with a couple of aldermen or "alderwomen" in a corner grocery; then when she returns to her home at 11.30, Charles Augustus will be rocking the baby to sleep, no dishes washed, fire out, no supper, etc. Well, I guess I would rather not vote any how. Election day is bad enough now; what would it be, though, if the ladies had "equal rights?"

I have just the saintest suspicion that Shepherd Boy is a bachelor, who got the "mitten" from just such a girl as he describes in his letter. Just think of it, girls! how coolly he tells how many yards we have in our overskirts. It we do use considerable material in our dresses, no sensible woman will go beyond her means. No doubt many would discard the "follies of fashion" if they were not afraid of Mrs. Grundy.

Ladies can make a delightful toilet wash for the hands and face by the following method: Take a glass stoppered bottle, put into it the leaves or flowers of any plant you prefer the perfume of, and pour over them some glycerine, let it stand for four weeks, by which time all the aromatic properties of the leaves and flowers will be extracted by the glycerine. When you wish to use the perfume, pour a little of it into a bowl of water and wash your face and hands. This is a very delicate toilet article. Not much can be done to make the hair grow long unless it has a natural tendency to do so. My hair comes out by the handful in very warm weather, and being naturally curly it comes out only the more I comb it. Last Summer I treated it successfully by washing the scalp frequently with an egg and rinsing with soft water, but do not use soap. Mix one-third bay rum and two-thirds water, use as a dressing every week or two; after the hair has been washed it must be oiled or it will break and split. When the roots need strengthening, put a few red pepper balls in glycerine and rub into the scalp. This is entirely harmless. Salt water is also very good, so is grape vine juice, or grape leaves, steeped like tea.—MAYFLOWER.

A Voice from the Pines.

When my daughters were from 12 to 15 years old, we lived in a neighborhood where dancing was very much practiced, and my little girls often came home from school telling of invitations they had received to go to a dance, and begging earnestly for my permission to go; but I always told them that they would be better off, both at that time and in the future, not to go. And they have since thanked me sincerely for keeping them at home. It is true that there are sometimes at country dances young people with whom we would not wish our daughters to associate. I am pleased to hear of the little girls and boys helping mother so nicely. My little Henry, 11 years old, can wipe the dishes and do other chores; has pieced a four-patch quilt and commenced a nine-patch, and this winter has knit himself a pair of wristlets of red and white clouded yarn. He knit them in a strip just long enough to go round the wrist, and I bound them off and sewed the ends together. I cast on 16 stitches and each cloud in the yarn knit four times across, so they are striped. Perhaps some little boy or girl who reads this would enjoy knitting some. I want to tell you about my new flour chest that grandpa made. I hardly know how I have kept house 30 years without one. It is made of pine boards, and is three feet six inches long and two feet six inches wide. The bottom is put in a few inches from the floor; it is two feet nine inches high. At each end is a box or till six inches wide, with a lid hung with hinges, in which to keep soda, spices, cake cutter, etc. Between these tills the front side of the chest is four and a half inches lower than the back, and a cover is hung with hinges at the back. The right hand half of the chest is for flour, the left half is divided into three small partings for other kinds of flour or meal. A strip is nailed on the inside of the back and front to support the kneading board which can be slipped to the right or left as occasion requires for reaching into either part. Any carpenter can make one, Grandpa made me a book-case too, to set on the bureau, it is stained and varnished and is very convenient.

Lime and lard, equal parts will cure chilblains. MRS. M. E. A. SHAW.

Chippewaw Falls, Wis.

Another.

I want to thank the many writers to the Household for the valuable recipes they send. We have been very successful with a great many, especially in the cake department. We also oiled our kitchen floors according to directions, and now nothing would ever tempt us to have our floor otherwise. But I am writing this letter especially to give Barry Trevor a small piece of my mind. The very idea of asking for lady correspondents and then not answering all the letters, for he says: "I wish I could answer all, but that is impossible." Now, why, impossible? Is it because he is too lazy to write so many letters? Is it because he has not time? Is it because he cannot afford postage? Or, is it because he can't write to some as they write to him. Really, in his case these are not excuses at all. If he is lazy, he need not have asked for correspondents. If his time is too limited to allow his answering each and every letter that reached him, then he ought to have thought of his lack of time sooner. If he cannot afford postage, perhaps, if he only says so in the HELADE, the Household will raise a subscription for him, or those who have written him will send stamps for return postage. If he can't write to them as they write to him, why, write in the style he can. No, no. It certainly is not polite to any of the ladies who have written him to pass some by unnoticed and unrecognized. Really, Barry, I thought better of you! And then to come out and boldly say that all the letters had not been answered. We who did not answer your request would not have known this had you not told it yourself. Perhaps no one wrote to him at all, and he took that method of chiding the Household. Perhaps he never meant to answer any who would write, and just wanted to have a rush of letters once in his life. Perhaps—well I guess I will let him arise and speak for himself. GLENALBERT.

Cuba, Kas.

A Lottery of Enquiry.

I wonder if any one can give any information about the destiny of Lena Cowan, Yuncalla, Douglass County, Oregon, of C. N. Chapman, Allamounte, Orange County, Florida, and of Wildwood, Middle Mountain, Craig County, Va.? Of course they are not expected to be in the land of the living, for I would not for a moment suppose any of the above mentioned parties to be anything else than honorable, and the first mentioned has neither acknowledged the receipt of a box of tuberose bulbs, or answered a postal of enquiry about the same. The second has not sent any air plants for the requested 10 cents which was sent, or answered postal in regard to it, and the third sent a few leaves for box of specimens which I sent, instead of pottery, fancy work, gorgets, or specimens as she promised, but finally wrote, saying that "want of a box prevented," so one was sent and the receipt acknowledged, but weeks after a postal of enquiry received no answer. People who are not willing to do as they offer to, should at least return things sent or pay postage on them. Then again why do people sign a *nom de plume*, which they will not use at the office where the mail is desired to be sent? I wrote to C. C., San Francisco, Cal., and to Robin Redbreast, Bradford, Pa., in good faith, and both letters were returned from the Dead Letter Office—the first marked "fictitious," and the last "unclaimed." A. L. B.

Miss.

A Beautiful Fancy-Box.

I want tell the girls how to make a handsome ornament for the table. Take a cigar box—one about three inches high—take off all the paper, and sandpaper it until very smooth, give it a good coat of black paint—lampblack mixed with varnish will do. Let it get thoroughly dry; have ready some pressed ferns to suit your fancy—it will be necessary to press them down occasionally until dry, as the edges often loosen and fly up. Then varnish again. The ferns will bleach after being exposed to the light awhile, and then you have a box that looks like exquisite inlaid work. Finish the inside with fancy paper.

Lately I learned something which adds very much to winter bouquets. Take thistles—Canada or Scotch. When in full bloom carefully remove the calyx or green that surrounds the flower; hang them up to dry. When dry they will burst out in snowy balls.

Mesonville, Iowa. WINNIE.

A Model Kitchen.

I call to describe my ideal kitchen. It is not large and roomy, filled with treasawing, carving, and flowers and I rest none of the family in it, save the cook, but it is convenient and easily kept neat which is a great item to the tired housewives who must do all their own work. The room is ten feet square the floor neatly painted in some light color. The only ornaments necessary are a box stove, a sink containing a pump and place to wash dishes above with room below for iron ware, a safe for your dishes, and a kitchen cabinet which holds your flour, cornmeal, graham, sugar, eggs, spices, rolling pin and molding board, and has a drawer for table linen. There is my kitchen, the furniture of which will not cost $100 inclusive of the cistern, supplying the pump.

Red Willow, Neb. A. L. ACKERSON.

A Progressive Little Housekeeper.

I've come again, this time partly for sympathy. I've broken my best dolly. Can't some of you tell me how to fix her so the break won't show? I am seven years old to-day, and papa brought me a pretty brown dog as my present. I've learned to knit this Winter, and am learning to make Aunt Sophie's lace edging. Mother made some for a pair of wristlets, and I think it is pretty. Since I wrote you I've learned to make biscuit, Johnnie cake, ginger bread and cookies. Have made some pumpkin pies too, that papa said were nice. To make Johnnie cake take one egg, one cup of sour milk, one of cream, two cups corn meal, one of flour, teaspoon each of salt and soda.—INA ACKERSON.

Cooking Recipes.

A few weeks ago we killed several fowls, dressed them, then let them freeze. The next day we packed them in a barrel with snow—this prevents discoloration. We tied a string around the wings of the old fowls, to distinguish them from the young ones. Before cooking them they must be placed in cold water for a few hours to draw out the frost. In making mince pies we think six teacups of chopped apples to one teacup of meat, much better than the old way of using so much meat. We use sweet cider with a little sharp vinegar and lots of sugar and syrup. Then we add as much butter as we can afford, besides some chopped suet, raisins, spices, &c. There is not much danger of making them too good. We always cook this preparation before making into pies. Buckwheat cakes can be made known by adding a tablespoon of syrup just before baking. Here is a recipe for a cider cake, which we hope you will like. It is very wholesome. Stir two eggs with two teacups brown sugar, add two-thirds of a teacup of butter, one-half teacup sweet milk, one teaspoon soda, one teacup chopped raisins, rolled in four teacups flour. Just before putting in the oven add one teacup of cider. Bake rather fast.

Another good cake can be made as follows: Bake a cake in layers as for jelly: with an egg beater beat a teacup of sweet cream till thick enough to spread nicely; add two tablespoonfuls white sugar; flavor with lemon and spread this between the cakes and over the top. Keep in a cool place till ready to use. It will keep several days.

St. Charles, Mich. ALCYONE.

Some time ago a lady asked for a recipe for

RYE BREAD.

Here is my mother's way: One-third wheat and two-thirds rye flour, to three loaves, about one cup of good hop yeast; when working on the moulding-board, add about five large boiled potatoes, mashed fine. Rye bread must be worked longer than any other, and it takes longer to bake, about one hour in a slow oven. Baking in an old-fashioned brick oven improves it greatly. It ought to be kept in a cellar, or a stone jar covered closely.

Old rusty looking black lace can be renovated by washing in water in which borax has been dissolved, and wrapping around a folded paper while damp. The printer's ink adheres to the lace and makes it look like new.

I wish to obtain a book giving full instructions, and also containing music for the guitar. Will give something in exchange. MAYFLOWER.

East Toledo, O.

Exchanges Wanted.

I am piecing a log cabin bed quilt, would like every one of the Household to send me a piece of calico.—H. B, Box 48, Clintonville, Conn.

I have Getz organ instruction book, which I would like to exchange for "The Home Circle," vol. I.—ELLA M. PURDY, Sun City, Barbour County, Kans.

I want to exchange miscellaneous books for a first-class opera glass. Am willing to give full value for a good article. Address HENRY G. HILL, Lock Box 88, Toledo, O.

I should like to exchange Richardson's New Method for the Pianoforte for an equal value of mineral specimens, or any of the scientific works of Tyndall, Agassiz, Dana, Proctor or Draper. My book is in good condition.—L. J. HOWARD, Kane County, Mo.

Will the lady readers of the BLADE that have plenty of flower seed send me some? I will try and satisfy them. I have a little boy's coat and pants pattern for a five year old. Almost everything in the shape of flower seed will be acceptable.—MRS. EVA L. HIXON, Boulder, Colo.

I have two year's numbers of Lippincott's Magazines to exchange for geological specimens or other curiosities. I have history or any good book I have not. The magazines are in good condition, and come at $1 a year. Any one wishing to exchange, send me a postal. —MARGARET J. CLARK, California, Branch Co., Mich.

I have for exchange, patterns of paletot and muff for lady, Garrick paletot for girl, polonaise for lady, costume for little girl; lady's mantle, lady's jacket, low square bodice for lady, *Garde Française* frock for girl, and paletot for promenade. Would like in exchange, tidy patterns in crochet, braiding or chain stitch patterns for sheet and pillow shams, or anything nice for the house.—MISS LELIA MOORE, Grandview, Spencer Co., Ind.

I offer the following books in exchange: "Footfalls on the Boundary of Another World," by R. D. Owen, 550 pages; "Spirit-rapping Unveiled," by Rev. H. Mattison, 200 pages; "The Complete Cook, Confectioner and Baker," by J. M. Sanderson, 350 pages; "Army Regulations," contains forms of camps and drill, 500 pages; "Macaulay's Essays," 300 pages; "Life of Leighton, 150 pages.—T. A. IMLAY, Freeport, Ill.

I have a Globe Dictionary, cloth; *new* First Lessons in Botany, by Wood; Story of a Shower, a novel in paper cover. Will exchange for any of Dickens works, but Oliver Twist, Nicholeby or Pickwick. Howe's any of Thackeray's, or Joaquin Miller's "Songs of the Sierras." Would be glad to exchange "The Story of a Shower," for "That Wife of Mine." Address by postal M. W. LITTLE, Masonville, Ia.

I have a large white platter, the whole inside of which is covered with a picture in blue and blue border. It is quite old and would be greatly prized by a collector. I have also a chromo copy of Ryder's famous Centennial oil painting, "Yankee Doodle"—cost $5. Either of the above I will exchange for a good Opera glass, or both for a very fine one. —M. G. SMITH, Butler, Ind.

If any of the exchange friends will send me pieces of flannel for a quilt, (quite small pieces will do) in exchange for the "History of Wood," by Wm. Sine, please send me a card to that effect. Can any one furnish me with any of the Rollo books? If so, which one, and what will you take in exchange? I can send reading matter, or a pair of double mittens for a little boy, knit in half squares.—MRS. M. E. A. SHAW, Chippewa Falls, Wis.

I would like to exchange fossils from the Hamilton Group, such as atrypas, athyris, cyathophyllum, encrinites, orthis, strombodes, spirifieras, etc., etc.; minerals—limonite, broken septara, ribbon stalagmites, small stalactites, etc., for the following, in good cabinet size: Specimens amethysts, amazegdalord, asbestos, cinnabar, chlorophane, crystal topaz, coral, emerald, jasper, Geode's, Iceland spar, pearl and satin spar, sapphire, rutile, zircon, sea shells, Indian relics, etc.—WM. W. BUXTON, Mile Center, Yates Co., N. Y.

I desire any of Tyrdall's works, or Buckle's "History of Civilization," or "Prreno-Geology," by J. S. Grime, Boston, 1851, and "New System of Phrenology," by the same, or Mandsley's "Physiology of Mind." In exchange I will send new books—Beadle's "Western Wilds," $3.75; Shafer's "Foundation of Success," cloth, $3.50; or Burdette's "Rise and Fall of the Moustache," cloth, $2.50. Send terms and names of books on civil engineering and mineralogy, if you cannot exchange the above.—R. E. BUSH, Nevada City, Cal.

I have for exchange the Floral Cabinet for two years, Musical Hours and Musical World for 1878, sheet music, several numbers of Indoors and Out—a book entitled the Western Wilds, and "Who Redeemed Them," the latter good as new, and cost me $3. Also, two small books, in paper cover, German and French, self taught. My wants are the following songs: "Gipsy's Warning," and answer, the "Minstrel and his Harp," reply to "Belle Mahone," "Gathering Shells from the Shore," "My Little Gertrude," "Home Across the Sea," and "Speak to Me," "Demorest's, Arthur's and Peterson's Magazine.—L. E. RICHARDS, Island City, Mo.

There is one kind of flower seed that I have not that I want very much, the Nasturtium. Had them last year, but they did not bear any seed. I also want the following garden seed: sugar peas, radish, beets, cabbage, turnips, hubbard squash, rhubarb, onions and artichoke. Of seeds to offer in exchange I have white mustard, parsnips, coriander, sweet corn, and seed of the box elder tree. I have the words of a great many love songs, war songs, moral and sentimental songs I will send for anything of equal value. Will send the list to any one enclosing stamp. Will not reply to a postal card.—MRS. R. W. HAZELWOOD.

I have several books to exchange for bound volumes of poems by Scott, Whittier, Longfellow, Carleton, Cary or miscellaneous. Or works of fiction by reliable authors, or sketches of travel and adventure, or any of Bayard Taylor's works, or his life, and should like a school Ancient History. I have "History of the Great Rebellion" by Thomas P. Rettell, finely bound, 780 pages, with steel engravings. "D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation," in 4 volumes, leather bound, "Hall's Scripture History," Memoir of Bennet, the "Afflicted Man's Companion; and The Mourner." By Rev. John Wilson. Would like the books to be in good condition, as mine all are. Address—P. M. Carlisle, Mich.

To prevent or cure mildew, use a small pinch of flour of sulphur dusted over the leaves of roses or other plants; sulphate of ammonia dissolved in water, say 10 grains to a gallon of water is a valuable food for plants. I never have experienced a colder winter north than we had this winter in sunny Kansas. I lost all my plants, though I have a warm house. I still have a large supply of choice flower seeds and seeds of sensitive roses, also some choice prairie flower seeds—in all 30 kinds—which I will exchange for house plants. Geraniums being choice, also foliage plants. Send by mail to Parsons, Labette County, Kan.—E. A. PARKS.

Since many of the advocates of dancing object seriously to the so-called "kissing plays" which are introduced in its stead, will they not give us some other substitute? Will not some of the Household correspondents describe some pleasant and entertaining plays for Winter evenings?

Owing to the removal of a bread receipt at the bottom of the article on "Soups and Stews" last week, the signature, "MAYFLOWER, East Toledo, O.," was carried over till this week. It will be found elsewhere with the remainder of her article.

Our Young Folks.

THE SHINING LITTLE HOUSE.

It hung in the sun, the little house,
It hung in the sun, and shone;
And through its walls I could hear his voice
Who had it all for his own.

The walls were of wire, as bright as gold,
Wrought in a pretty design;
The spaces between for windows served,
And the floor was clean and fine.

There was plenty, too, to eat and drink,
In this little house that shone;
A lucky thing, to be sure, you'd say,
A house like this for one's own!

But the door was shut, and locked all tight,
The key was on the outside;
The one who was in could not get out,
No matter how much he tried.

'Twas only a prison after all,
This bright little house that shone;
Ah, we would not want a house like that,
No matter if 'twere our own!

And yet, through the walls, I heard the voice,
Of the one who lived inside;
To warble a sweeter song each day,
It did seem as if he tried.

To open the door, he never sought,
Nor fluttered in idle strife;
He ate, and he drank, and slept, and sang,
And made the most of his life.

And I, to myself, said every day,
As his cheery song I heard,
There's a lesson for us in every note
Of that little prisoned bird.

We all of us live a life like his,
We are walled on every side;
We all long to do a hundred things,
Which we could not if we tried.

We can spend our strength all foolishly
In a discontented strife;
Or we can be wise, and laugh and sing,
And make the best of our life.

—*St. Nicholas for February.*

Little Nichols, and How he Became a Great Musician.

The violin is a wonderful instrument in the hands of a master. In its power of expression, it purity and fineness of tone, it ranks next to the cultivated human voice. There have been many famous performers on this instrument, but Paganini stands alone the most wonderful violinist the world has ever heard. And he had won this fame before he was 16 years old.

Nicholas Paganini was born at Genoa, Italy, February 18, 1784. When he was only four years old his father put a violin into his tiny hands, and made him practice upon it from morning until night. Sitting at his parent's feet on a little stool, Paganini obediently scraped away, learning his scales and intervals. He entered into the work cheerfully, and took great interest in his studies, but this did not lessen his father's rigor. The slightest fault was punished severely. Sometimes food was denied the little fellow, in punishment for a mistake any learner might have made. The delicate sensitive constitution of the child was injured beyond repair by such treatment.

His mother, also ambitious for her son, worked upon his imagination and excited him to ever-renewed exertions by telling him that as singed had so pleased to her in a vision, and had assured her that he should outstrip all competition as a performer on the violin.

Even at this early age the bent of Paganini's mind was toward the marvelous and extraordinary—that is, he did not merely imitate those who, before his time, had played the violin, but struck out new ways for himself, making his instrument a greater puzzle to the unlearned than ever it had been before; and he astonished his parents and received their hearty plaudits when, in departing from the common methods, he produced entirely new effects. His musical instinct seemed to have been only sharpened and strengthened by the close application imposed upon him.

Soon, the musical knowledge of the elder Paginini became insufficient for the growing abilities of his son, and other teachers were procured.

At eight years of age the little Nicholas performed in the churches, and at private musical parties, "upon a violin that looked nearly as large as himself." He also composed, at this time, his first "Violin Sonata." A year afterward he made what was considered his first public appearance, or *debut*, in the great theater of Genoa, at the request of two noted singers, Marchesi and Albertinotti.

Paganini's father took him, about this time, to see the celebrated composer, Rolla, who lived at Parm, hoping to obtain for the boy the benefit of Rolla's instruction for a little while. But the composer was sick, and could not see his visitors. The room in which they were seated was next to the sick man's bed chamber, and it so happened that he had left his violin there, together with the copy of a new work he had just finished. Little Nicholas, at his father's request, took up the violin to see what the music was like. He began at the beginning and executed the entire work at sight without a single mistake, and so well that the sick composer arose from his bed that he might see what master hand had given him so agreeable a surprise. Rolla, on hearing the object of their visit, assured the father that he could add nothing to the young artist's acquirements, and recommended other noted teachers.

Nicholas and his father then went about the country through the principal cities of Lombardy, after which they returned to Genoa where the youthful performer was again subjected to those daily toils which had been forced upon him before with such heartless rigor; but this bondage was not to be prolonged.

At 14 he was allowed to go on a short tour with an elder brother, and at 15 he ran away and began to travel on his own account. Relieved from the control of his too exacting father, his mind reacted from long slavery, and he fell into bad ways of living. But after a while his affection for his father led him to return home. Having saved a sum of money equal to about $1,500, he now offered a portion of it to his parents. But his exacting father demanded the whole, and Paganini, to keep peace, gave up the greater part of the hard-earned money.

The young man now began another tour, visiting many parts of Italy, and everywhere meeting with unbounded success. But I am very sorry to say that he allowed his great popularity to turn his head, so that he became very arrogant, head-strong, and, in various ways, led an unworthy life. Intemperance soon was added to his infirmities, and he was even imprisoned for a time on account of troubles caused by his wild excesses.

Paganani possessed a generous and sympathetic nature, as the following anecdote plainly proves: One day, while walking in the streets of Vienna, Paganini saw a poor boy playing upon a violin, and, on entering into conversation with him, learned that he maintained his mother and a number of little brothers and sisters by what he picked up as a traveling

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Contributions should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany each letter.

Keep off the Farm.

The *Western Rural* presents the other side of the farming argument as follows:

A review of the statistics for the past 10 years will show the growing importance of our agriculture, and will also show those pressed and well meaning philanthropists who desire that everybody out of employment should resort to tilling the soil, that until there is a better market, we have farmers enough. The vast untouched acres of the West do not offer a solution of the question as to how to live, to the present unemployed by any means. A very fertile cause of our present stagnation of business is the lack of a suitable division of labor. Men have crowded into certain callings until they are overflowing. The cities do not want any more clerks, any more lawyers, any more doctors or any more gamblers. These and like callings have been so crowded that a portion of those who follow them find them upon the very verge of starvation, and beside not producing anything, are by reason of poverty unable to consume much of anything. They go hungry, while there is plenty to eat and freeze while there are plenty of garments to wear. This is the condition of thousands. And the result is that the manufacturer and producer find a limited demand for products for which there should be a good demand, and he, especially the manufacturer, finds it necessary to limit his productions, and in so doing turns out of employment another army to starve and freeze in a land running with milk and honey. To all these thousands of unemployed the mistaken philanthropist says: "Go to farming." That is, he would throw matters still further out of gear and balance by overcrowding a calling which even now produces more than there is a market to profit at a remunerative price. But better to let that calling remain as it is, until those who have been trained in it, and to whom it legitimately belongs, can make it remunerative to its present dependents.

Just a casual review of the last few years will, we think, be sufficient to settle this point. Take for instance, the values of live animals and breadstuffs for the 10 years last past, the exportation of which has so largely increased during the time. In 1869 the value of exports of live animals was $793,395, and in 1878 it was $5,841,653; an increase of $4,111,258. In 1869 the value of bread and breadstuffs was $68,080,907, and in 1878 it was $181,774,807; an increase of $112,702,510. Take also fruit. In 1869 the value was $1,6 512, and in 1878 it was $1,356,9[illegible], an increase of nearly $1,-000,000. This shows how rapidly our production is increasing, and yet in the very face of this increase the demand is less to-day than it has been for 10 years. Perhaps a statement of our exports of breadstuffs for the past three years will still more clearly show it. They were as follows: In 1876, $131,-182,555; in 1877, $117,806,476, and in 1878, as already stated, $181,774,507. Of wheat alone was exported in 1876, $88,-042,890; in 1877, $91,135,962; and in 1878, $96,872,016.

Now we are not among those who favor a limitation of production by our present farmers, even if it were generally practicable, but under existing circumstances, it is unwise to swell the number of farmers, by turning the people of other callings into theirs. What is wanted is to so divide labor off the farm that it can produce to an advantage, thus benefiting itself and benefiting the farmer. Instead of advising the unemployed who know nothing, to "go to farming," our advice would be to those on the farm to stay there.

Our agriculture has not reached perfection, either, and it is not policy to crowd it, and thus discourage those who are laboring to develop it to the highest degree possible, until it has been. Our soil and climate are so varied, that it necessarily requires a considerable degree of time and money, and the exercise of a great deal of patience, in many localities, to insure to employment of the full possibilities of farming. For such products as are raised, under such circumstances, it should be the effort of every well-wisher of agriculture and the prosperity of the Nation, to afford a ready and remunerative market. Surely the turning of our army of unemployed in the cities into the fields will not have a tendency to improve our markets for agricultural products. If such men are capable of conducting the farm so that it would be remunerative to themselves, it would be so much the worse for other farmers and consequently for the community. But they are not capable of doing this, and the only result of trying to make farmers of them would be to load the markets with something more of produce, as long as they continued to play farming, and when absolute failure made it impracticable for them to remain no longer, to more thoroughly discourage them in the end.

Eggs and Egg Culture.

The traffic in eggs in this country is estimated, by competent authorities, to equal $150,000,000 per annum. New York receives in a single year 330,000 barrels of eggs, valued at $9,000,000. In 1877 there were exported from this country 5,292,295 dozen eggs, valued at $686,709. It is claimed that Philadelphia consumes daily 50,000 dozen eggs. The approximate receipts of eggs in Boston, for the year 1878, have been as follows: 17,027 cases, containing 40 dozen each; 4,000 boxes, containing 100 dozen each, and 17,783 barrels containing 70 dozen each. These figures give, as a result, 2,548,410 packages, containing 6,515,-[illegible] dozen eggs, or 78,187,880 single eggs. It is estimated that only 85 per cent. of all receipts are consumed in Massachusetts, and that about 80 per cent. are consumed in and near the town. In nearly all small towns and villages enough eggs are raised to supply the local demand. The number of eggs consumed in this State, when computed, is found to be at an average of 56 eggs per year to every inhabitant, or one egg per week. All these eggs come to Boston, from various sections, in about the following proportions: Eastern eggs, mostly from Maine by boat and rail, at all seasons of the year, 21 per cent. of total receipts; Northern eggs from Northern New York and Canada, 37 per cent; P. E. I. eggs, from Prince Edward's Island, between the months of April and November, 17 per cent.; Western eggs, 19 per cent; and Southern eggs, from Virginia during a few weeks in the Spring, three per cent. Of the Northern eggs the greater part comes from Canada, and this trade is annually increasing. A single Boston firm, this largest receiver of eggs in this market, handled nearly 6,000,000 dozen eggs last year. A vast majority of the consumers of eggs, especially in our large cities, are unable to detect poor eggs until they are completely spoiled. Many who eat eggs, so frozen that as to do away with the flavor, if they ever had any. Pickled eggs are sold to purchasers who pay for fresh ones. The time with which the eggs are treated in times of surplus prevents them from spoiling. It requires an expert to detect the difference in taste between a limed egg and a fresh one, though its contents have a changed appearance when broken, and for many purposes will not answer at all. A pickled egg will not boil; whenever it comes in contact with hot water the shell dissolves partnership in the middle. Limed eggs sell at one-third less than can be obtained for the newly-laid article. A test exists by which experts can correctly determine the age of an egg; it is known as the "candling" process. A good egg is transparent. To determine this fact it is generally held before a candle; if it can be seen through it is good, if otherwise not good. The extent of shrinkage in the white determines how old the egg is; a thirty-second part of an inch indicating three weeks, sixteenth of an inch six weeks, and so on. A bad egg is opaque, and it also generally makes its whereabouts known. Whenever we shall have discovered a practical method of transporting eggs abroad, so that they will retain their original freshness and delicacy, we shall have opened up a new and important trade and a valuable addition to our list of exports. It is said that American enterprise is asserting itself in this direction in Shanghai, China, where an egg preserving company has been established for some time. The object is to preserve the eggs in such a manner that they will be fresh, and suitable for consumption, or more particularly useful in cooking, for any length of time, and in every climate. The eggs are procured by regular egg dealers from the farmers around, and are bought by the company on very favorable terms. The quantity preserved daily depends more on supply than anything else. As many as 500 dozen a day can be done if they are forthcoming. Nothing can be more simple than the process. The eggs are broken, and white and yolk together are emptied into a vast flat trough lined with lead, which looks like a gigantic billiard table. The trough is only a few inches deep; but underneath it steam is admitted by pipes from a large boiler by means of which the eggs are dessicated until they assume the appearance of a kind of egg paste. There is a small quantity of sugar and salt mixed with it, and then it is drawn off and packed in tins, which are finally hermetically sealed. The business is entirely export and almost exclusively to England; a small proportion going to San Francisco. The tins may be opened years hence, and retain eggs during some weeks, whilst the contents are being consumed without the paste turning bad. It is suitable principally for making omelettes, or pastry, and must be a great boon to sea going ships, or in any locality where eggs are not plentiful, or are dear in price.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Profit in Keeping Sheep.

The following is by a correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker:*

An excellent farmer told me this year that for every sheep he kept he sold, in lambs and wool, an average of five dollars' worth per head. He said also that his sheep paid him better than any thing else grown on the farm. Five dollars are nearly 10 cents per week, and during the pasture season sheep can be kept at a cost of two to four cents per week. In Winter the cost is a little more; but if bean straw or other coarse fodder be freely used, Winter keep need not be very expensive, and the manure would be worth a large part of the cost of feeding. I am not so clear about the profit in Summering sheep. Where a farmer has a large amount of rough land unsuited to cultivation, sheep will utilize it better than any other stock, provided the land is not wet as well as rough. On low or swampy lands sheep will not do well, are liable to foot rot and other diseases. But if the farmer has only clover pasture, let him beware of sheep. Either he must feed so light as to get little benefit from his pasture, or he will ruin the younger clover—and he may do both. Sheep and clover both improve the farm, but they will not do it together. One neutralizes the other. That "the foot of the sheep is golden," is a proverb only true when pastures are filled with natural grasses and the herbage is made sweeter and richer from being kept closely cropped.

Five dollars per head sales from a flock of sheep presupposes a good many ewes, nearly quite as many lambs as sheep and a good market for them. My friend this year sold lambs at $5 63 per head, and wool at $1 50. Not all the lambs were sold, the ewes being saved for breeding and about as many old sheep taking their place. Where as were saved of ewe lambs. To get such a price for lambs, they must be good ones. A full blood Cotswold buck is used. As the ewe lambs are saved, the second cross is three-quarter blood, and the third is seven eighth. Lambs sired by the full cross are very strong, thrifty and heavy for their age. They are commonly dropped in February and March. This requires close watching and warm quarters in cold and stormy weather; but with these the lambs are less liable to—often less than farmers suffer who have ordinary lambs dropped in April or May. The grade of the Cotswold buck on the common native sheep, is hardier than the thoroughbred. They need better feed than the common native lambs; but they pay well for all they get. It will pay them on [illegible] to have the spring, after the weather becomes warm—better still if some grain is given to the ewe to stimulate her flow of milk, and as soon as the lamb is old enough to eat, to increase its size. Young lambs will begin to nibble at oats when two or three weeks old, and will soon learn to eat greedily. Only a very little is needed in addition to the dam's milk. The larger the lamb, the higher the price per pound. This is an unerring rule, be the price high or low. I know no way in which a little will pay so surely and so well as if fed to young lambs. Unless extra feed is given to the mother at least, early dropped lambs of good grade lambs are apt to become stunted, and will never fully recover.

The Tobacco Market.

A review of the market by a prominent dealer, shows that the Western crops for three years have been of rather inferior character; that in '77 showed somewhat more useful goods, thereby creating a demand for substantial wrappers and leaf, which caused their absorption early in the season, both East and at the Western breaks at satisfactory prices. In seed leaf, December, usually a dull market, proved quite satisfactory. Pennsylvania was the chief attraction, the sales of the month showing 4,100 cases of Pennsylvania, 650 of New England, 100 Ohio, 600 New York, and 300 Wisconsin.

A combination of causes have contributed to the success of the seed leaf trade of 1878. Although at the beginning of the year our assortments were very poor, the settling of the long strike of the cigar makers early in January gave an impetus to the trade, resulting in very satisfactory transactions during the first three months, which materially reduced our stocks of 1876 crops and those prior thereto.

A correct estimate shows that New England last year produced 30,000 cases. Pennsylvania has made about 45,000 cases, consisting some very choice crops, many of which have already been bought at prices ranging from 20 to 25c for wrappers, and in some instances fancy raisers have obtained 20 to 25c through; the growth of the bulk of this crop has suffered from lack of rain; the proportion of wrapper leaf will be much less than that of the year previous, but will the leaf be as sound, and will show more white veins. New York will give us 11,000 cases, of which the "flats," about 4,000 cases, considered an excellent article, notwithstanding considerable "sole sweat," has been nearly all taken at prices ranging from 10 to 14c through. The crop of Ohio is placed at 40,000 cases. Wisconsin, Illinois, etc., will make full 20,000 cases, in fact many claim 50,000 of average quality, although having suffered from worms and hail cut. So far the purchases of "Havana seed" comprises the bulk of transactions; these were made at prices ranging from 8 to 12c; other sorts have been bought at from 6c to 7c. We open the new year with a stock of 182,000 cases: 20,000 cases old crop, 156,000 new crop, but let us bear in mind, that our large manufacturers are fairly supplied, and notwithstanding the small quantity of old tobacco now on hand, which (excepting about 10,000 cases New England seconds and fillers, crop of 1878, which can be used in June) is all we have to work on until next October: in the opinion of New York houses, there is no danger of a scarcity arising.—*Exchange.*

Labels for Fruit Trees.

The most enduring labels are those formed of lead, with the names o the kinds of fruit impressed or indented with an iron stamp about half-way through the lead. The labels should be three inches long, one and a half wide, and have a hole through about ten in the middle or on one side of the label. The label should be fastened to the tree with stout, flexible lead wire, allowing room for the tree to grow. You will require punch letters of the alphabet, and the figures corresponding to that of the year in which the trees were planted, if you care to date their planting. Labels of this kind only perish with the lead. These are the most durable labels we know. Zinc labels are also good, and last a long time, if the names of the trees be written with a proper ink, which may be made of one drachm each of verdigris and sal ammoniac powder half a drachm of lampblack, mixed with 10 drachms of water. The labels should be made bright by rubbing them with sand paper; then write the names upon them immediately in a clear, bold hand, with a quill pen.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Forty-fifth Congress--Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.

The Senate resumed the consideration of unfinished business, being the bill to pay Warren Mitchell for cotton belonging to him, taken by the Government. It was discussed at length, and the Senate refused to order its third reading.

Sen. EDMUNDS moved to take up his resolution declaring the validity of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution.

Sen. GORDON moved to adjourn. Rejected—yeas, 18; nays, 20. Sens. Harris, Morgan, Hill and Maxey voted with the Republicans against the adjournment.

The motion of Sen. EDMUNDS, to take up his resolution was then agreed to—yeas, 29; nays, 16.

Sen. EDMUNDS said he did not desire to occupy the floor for this evening, and the Senate, by a rising vote of yeas, 27, nays 17, adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Legislative Appropriation bill was reported and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The bill to restrict the immigration of Chinese, providing that no master of a vessel owned by any citizen of the United States shall take on board, at any foreign port, any number of Chinese exceeding 15, with the intent to bring them to the United States, under a penalty of $100 for each passenger in excess of 15, was passed.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Postoffice Appropriation bill.

Mr. BAKER (Ind.) moved to increase the appropriation for mail transportation by railroad from $8,750,000 to $9,000,000. Adopted.

Mr. CHALMERS submitted an amendment increasing the appropriation for transportation by steamboats from $750,000 to $900,000. Agreed to.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 29.

A good portion of the morning hour was passed in discussing the resolution of Sen. EDMUNDS, providing that no person not entitled to the privilege of the floor be admitted to the corridor or the marble room. The resolution finally passed with the amendment, "except accompanied by a Senator."

Sen. HAMLIN called up the Senate bill for promoting the efficiency of the Chaplains of the United States Navy, and it was passed without division. The bill provides that no person under 25 years nor over 35 shall be appointed Chaplain, and fixes their relative rank, the whole number not to exceed 20.

The pension cases on the calendar being disposed of, the Senate went into executive session, on motion of Sen. Conkling.

When the doors re-opened, Senator Allison was appointed a member of the Judiciary Committee, in place of Senator Christiancy.

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

After a short struggle the Republicans who desired the morning hour, were voted down, and by a vote of yeas, 118; nays, 115, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Postoffice Appropriation bill.

Mr. FOSTER submitted an amendment repealing the provision of the bill making the appropriation for the deficiency in the appropriation for postal transportation by railroad for the fiscal year ending June, 1878, which forbids any increase in the postal car service beyond what existed December 1, 1878. Adopted.

Mr. HUNTON submitted an amendment providing that the Postmaster-General shall make no deficiency during the current fiscal year. Adopted.

Mr. BAKER (Ind.) moved to increase the appropriation for route agents from $1,075,000 to $1,125,000. Adopted.

Mr. LATHROP submitted an amendment providing that if the stamps required by the Postoffice Department can be manufactured at less than their present cost by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the contract shall be transferred to that Bureau.

The Committee rose and reported the bill to the House.

The first amendment on which a separate vote was demanded was that of increasing the appropriation for Clerks in the Postoffices, and it was adopted.

The amendment increasing the appropriation for the payment of Letter Carriers was adopted.

The following amendments were then agreed to: Increasing the appropriation for transportation on the Star routes from $3,650,000 to $3,900,000; for railroad transportation, from $8,715,000 to $9,000,000, and for steamboat transportation from $650,000 to $900,000.

The House then, without final action on the bill, took a recess until 7:30, the special order for the evening being the consideration of the reports from the Committee on Commerce.

After passing a few private bills the House adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.

The Vice President appointed a committee to consider and report upon the rights of the Senate in the matter of amendments to the post route bill of last session, mails, Brazilian mail, steamship subsidy, etc. Edmunds, Ferry, Hoar, Tarriman and Wallace.

Sen. PLUMB called up the House bill providing for the payment of counsel fees in the Osage ceded land suits, aggregating $26,000. Pending the discussion the morning hour expired, and the bill was laid aside.

The resolution of Edmunds declaring the validity of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution was taken up and Morgan advocated his substitute of January 20th.

Before Sen. Morgan concluded his remarks the Senate went into executive session.

During the executive session, the doors being constructively opened, Sen. BURNSIDE moved to amend the bill recently reported by him from the Joint Committee on army reorganization, by withdrawing certain portions as to be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, thus leaving the balance of the bill to stand as that reported by the Committee. Agreed to, and it was ordered that the bill be printed as it was proposed to amend it. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Postoffice Appropriation bill was passed after many of the amounts were increased. The struggle of yesterday for the morning hour was then renewed.

A motion to go into Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill was defeated by 101 to 95, and the yeas and nays were ordered.

The motion to go into Committee was defeated: yeas, 133; nays, 123. But HEWITT changed his negative and moved to reconsider the vote. This was promptly followed by a motion to lay Hewitt's motion on the table, and on that the vote was taken.

The hour of 2 having arrived, the Speaker interrupted the roll call, stating that the floor was at the disposal of the Committee on the District of Columbia.

A resolution was adopted providing that on Monday, February 10, the session of the House commence at 11 A. M.

A number of bills were introduced and referred. Adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.

A letter of the Secretary of the Interior regarding the increase of salaries of the Governors of Territories was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Sen. VOORHEES, from the Committee on Pensions, reported a resolution instructing the Secretary of the Interior to report the additional clerical force necessary in the pension office and the pension branch of the Surgeon General's office to secure to applicants a prompt examination of their claims and a speedy and efficient transaction of the business of pensioners. Agreed to.

Pruden, Assistant Private Secretary to the President, appeared in the Senate Chamber with a message from the President. He was accompanied by a messenger bearing a huge bundle of documents, supposed to be from Sec. Sherman regarding the New York Customs appointments, but the bundle was not disseminated.

Mr. SAUNDERS, from the Joint Committee to inquire into the expediency of transferring the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department, reported that the Committee had been unable to agree, and submitted a report accompanied by bill to authorize the President temporarily to transfer the custody, control and management of certain Indian tribes from the Interior to the War Department, and for other purposes. Laid on the table, and Mr. Saunders gave notice that he would call it up for consideration at an early day.

In open session Sen. Shields was appointed a member of the Committees on Railroads and Enrolled Bills, in the place of his predecessor, Armstrong.

Sen. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported adversely on the House joint resolution in relation to expenditures at the Industrial Exposition in Paris, and it was indefinitely postponed.

In explanation Sen. HAMLIN said the resolution only repealed what is now a law. It is the duty of the Secretary of State to make that report of the expenditures, and he would do so as soon as he could ascertain the amount.

The Senate, on motion of Sen. Conkling, went into executive session.

HOUSE.

Mr. CONGER, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a back bill in reference to the proceeds of the sale of captured and abandoned property. Printed and recommitted.

On motion of Mr. WHITTHORNE the Senate amendments to abolish the United States Volunteer Navy were non-concurred in.

The Senate bill was passed for the erection of a military post at El Paso, Texas.

The Speaker then called on the Committees for reports of private bills.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Covert in the chair, on the private calendar, the pending bill being the one known as the Fairfax Seminary bill.

Mr. WHITE opposed the bill as a war claim.

Mr. HUNTON advocated it.

Mr. POTTER favored the bill if it was not a war claim, and not subject to the objection that it was for property destroyed by the enemies of the country. The property lay within the defenses of Washington City, not within the insurrectionary territory at all. It lay within the territory excluded by the proclamation of President Lincoln.

After further debate the motion to report the bill to the House was defeated; yeas, 70; nays, 78; and on motion of Mr. BUCKNER the preceding clause was stricken out, and the Committee (in accordance with the rule) rose and reported the action of the House, which by a vote of yeas, 121; nays, 80, concurred in the action.

Mr. BOONE submitted a report of the Commission appointed for the purpose of examining the practicability of transferring the Indian Bureau to the War Department, in favor of the transfer.

Mr. VAN VOORHEES submitted a dissenting report on the same subject.

The reports were ordered printed and referred to a Committee of the Whole. Adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.

Sen. McCREERY, from the Joint Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of transferring the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department, submitted a report signed by four members of the Committee, in favor of the transfer.

Sen. HOAR, from Com. on Privileges and elections sent a minority report in favor of the 16th amendment to the constitution prohibiting the State from disfranchising persons account of sex. Ordered printed. The report is signed by Hoar, Cameron (Wis.) and Mitchell.

Sen. EDMUNDS called up the Senate bill to provide for ascertaining and settling private land claims in New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and Colorado. The object is to settle titles to the lands derived from the Spanish and Mexican Governments.

The bill was discussed and finally laid aside. Consideration was then resumed of the resolution of Edmunds declaring the validity of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, and Morgan continued his argument in favor of the substitute presented by him.

HOUSE.

The debate threatened for the past few days has begun. Mr. CHALMERS in his tendency to suspect others of corruption in the speech of Bragg indicated generally a tendency to corruption in one's self. He hoped the South would be safe for the Democratic party, but for that portion of it which had courage and manliness to treat the people of the South as equals, not as inferiors, in the Union.

After several speeches, for the most part by Mississippi members, the debate terminated with the morning hour. The House then refused, 77 to 112, to consider the army reorganization bill, and went into Committee of the Whole on the army appropriation bill.

SPELLING REFORM.

The Wisconsin Teachers Declare in Favor of It.

MADISON, Wis., Jan. 31.—The State Board of Text-book Commissioners, created under the general laws of 1878, submitted a report to the Legislature today. The Commission was appointed to inquire into the facts relating to the text-books used in the public schools of Wisconsin, and also to inquire and determine whether any of the proposed systems of spelling reform before the public were feasible and could be properly or expediently adopted in the schools of this state. The commission was composed of five prominent and influential citizens—H. C. Whitford, Superintendent of public instruction; R. E. Davis, of Dane County; George H. Paul, of Milwaukee County; George S. Albe, of Winnebago County, and John R. Qamby, of Sauk County. The report is in the form of a bill for the consideration of the Legislature.

The report aims, in brief, to encourage uniformity without arbitrary enforcement; to insure to the people advantages which belong to a wholesale purchase; to introduce competition among book publishers, and to afford home capital and home talent an opportunity to enter the contest on equal terms with outside publishers and authors. The section of the report which will prove of most general interest outside the State is that having reference to a spelling reform. The report of the commission on this subject was written by Senator Paul, and is ably written—a sufficient yet comprehensive treatise on the subject. The report recommends all practicable legislation to that end, alleges the power and duty of the State thus to promote economy and efficiency in public education, and exhibits the deficiencies in existing orthography. It recapitulates and recommends efforts for reform, opposes any compromise of principle on the ground of expediency in any proposed systems of reform, and suggests the introduction of changes in orthography whenever scholars and legislative authorities shall concur in acceptable amendments by means of dictionaries with alternative spellings, introduced in public schools by legislative sanction.

TROUBLE FOR CATTLE DEALERS.

Report that the English Government Prohibits Importation of Cattle from America.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The news that the British Government had prohibited the importation of live cattle from America has created considerable excitement among shippers of live stock and also among ship owners, several lines of steamers running from this and other American ports having made large contracts for 1879. The Evening Post says: "During the Summer months last year many of the large steamers of the National line were especially fitted up and wholly devoted to this business, the number of cattle shipped by a single vessel often being more than 500. The alleged decision of the English Government was entirely unexpected. The present is the dullest time in trade, but even now there are probably more than 1,500 head of cattle on their way to Liverpool and Two cargos consigned by Goodsmith & Tree arrived at Liverpool yesterday, and Phillips said he had received no word from their agent there of any attempt to prevent landing. The British vice consul says no official notification of any attempt on the part of the British Government to prevent the importation of American cattle had been received.

"Why, Willie," said the mother at dinner, "you can't possibly eat another plate of pudding, can you?" "Oh, yes, I can, ma; one more plate will just fill the Bill."—*New Haven Register.*

THE CIPHER QUEST.

Judge Tyner Explains the Indiana Telegrams.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—William E. Chandler testified that he left the major part of the telegrams given to him by Gen. Brady in the private office of Gen. Butler. Another package he took to the Washington office of the New York Tribune.

Chandler stated with reference to the dispatches which he recently sent to the New York Tribune, that he took no copies, and that his impression was that they related to the Oregon, Florida, Louisiana and perhaps South Carolina elections. I first furnished them 12 or 15 Florida copies, which they returned me; I afterward forwarded to them all the remaining Florida copies, subsequently, they received by way of Mr. Hiscock, all the remaining copies of the telegrams.

Mr. Butler—Did not you hear from various sources open declarations that I had received these telegrams?

Witness—You yourself spoke to me of the fact that you had them; talked about getting them deciphered, and I said you knew it could be done, but it would cost some money.

Mr. McMahon—And yet in all those conversations he never asked whether it was you who left them on his desk or not?

ANS.—Not a word; knew that I had left them there, and I suspected that he suspected that I had.

Mr. Butler—As you said nothing about it I thought I had better say nothing about it, for if you had wished me to know, you would have told me.

The witness—We perfectly understand each other, General.

Evans was at this point recalled and asked if he had found the original letter from Bullock, a copy of which was read before the committee yesterday. Evans replied that he had, and wished to know who wrote the copy.

Chairman—I will tell you who wrote my copy.

Evans—I don't want to know that. I want to know who copied my letter.

The Chairman explained how he came by it. Some weeks ago a man called upon him and said he had seen a letter which showed where the missing dispatches were gone, and that he could procure a copy of it. The man left his address and went away with the request from Potter to secure a copy. Potter lost the address, and the man did not come back, but one day the farmer met him on the street, and asked for the letter, and the man handed it to him. Potter could not tell the man's name.

Chandler—Is there not as much mystery about that as about the dispatches being placed on Gen. Butler's table?

Answer—I want to know his name; that letter I am confident was copied at my desk; I will give a new suit of clothes to anybody who will give me his name. (Laughter.)

Question—Have you any other letters from Bulock?

Answer—They are of a private nature, altogether.

Chairman—That is perfectly satisfactory."

It was decided to call Tyner to-morrow.

The Committee the adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Before the Potter Committee to-day, W. T. McLennan, Assistant Chief of the Warrant Division of the Treasury Department, stated that in consequence of the letter from Secretary Sherman, he attended in the Morton committee room and examined the Oregon cipher dispatches, and succeeded in deciphering them by a "Dictionary key." The committee was not in session at the time he made the examination, but other experts were at work on the dispatches. Recess.

After recess the following dispatches were read:

"WASHINGTON—To Gen. Brady, Tallahassee, Florida—In trouble; I speak advisedly. Have no other fears.

"JAS. N. TYNER."

"WASHINGTON—To Gen. Brady, Tallahassee—Reliable information here says the Democrats here claim two of the Florida Returning Board. Do you believe it?

"WING."

"TALLAHASSEE—John Wing, Washington—We have no information of treachery except on the parties one of whom is [illegible] If we come to grief [illegible] to New Yorker, contrary to our interests, arouse suspicion.

"BRADY."

By Chairman—"Who was meant by the 'New Yorker?'"

A.—"Gen. Barlow."

Several other telegrams were read, but without significance. The last one related to the conclusion of the count, and stated that the State had gone for Mayes, etc. The cross-examination showed that "John Wing" was a fictitious name for Judge Tyner, and, like the cipher, it was arranged before Gen. Brady left Washington. His cipher had been destroyed, and he presumed Tyner had destroyed his copy.

First Assist. P. M. Gen. Tyner was then sworn. He had recently been informed by Gen. Brady that the Committee were about to examine into the cipher telegrams, and he feared as they, or a portion of them, had been once in his possession, that it would lead to misconstruction, and probably mix him in the affair. Tyner then desired to say a word regarding the testimony of the Western Union officials, Green, Carey and Grant. The testimony of Green to the effect that the telegrams passed between himself and John W. Foster, concerning the sale of certain offices, and between himself and Z. Chandler, regarding the appointment of Indian agents, had no warrant whatever in their statements. The idea of Mr. Cary that the telegrams in question related to that dirty piece of political engineering, was entirely erroneous. He would verify this statement by producing all the telegrams sent by him bearing upon the subject under investigation. Mr. Tyner then related how he obtained possession of the telegrams, and said he was ready to produce them in their entirety.

The witness then produced the telegrams; the first was dated indianapolis, September 29, and read as follows:

"To Jas. N. Tyner: (Personal.) "The Smith case and arrangements are satisfactory. Certain will be necessary in addition to early promised by McCormick; wait at Washington for my letter mailed last night and then go to New York at once.—J. W. FOSTER."

Witness explained that during the campaign, probably as early as July or August, he had a conversation with Zack Chandler, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, with reference to Indiana, the Central Committee of which State had written him asking assistance from the National Committee. Gentlemen in New York and elsewhere, witness was informed, had expressed their willingness to assist Indiana if Foster, who was formerly Chairman of the Committee in Indiana, was made Chairman or connected with the Committee, as they had much confidence in his management. Witness suggested that Foster, who was on a furlough from Mexico at the time, should be requested to go to Indiana to assist the local committee with his aid and presence. Subsequently, Foster was asked and consented to do this. Witness met him at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, in September. Foster said that in Indiana they would need $7,000 from the National Committee, only to be used in meeting the expenses of speakers, the printing bill, etc., and it was proposed to make an effort to secure the services of some active members of the greenback organization there, to induce the voters to go back on their old love and vote the Republican ticket. Another proposition was for the purchase of the Indianapolis Sentinel, a Democratic newspaper in the City of Indianapolis, which was said to be in financial distress and might be purchased cheaply; we went into McCormick's room, and that gentleman promptly stated that within a short time the Committee would be able to furnish the Indiana Republicans with $10,000 towards their campaign expenses. The proposition about purchasing the Sentinel was not then taken up; as Foster was leaving the hotel, he said, "I might want to telegraph to you, and might it not be well to have some phrase to use between us?" He thereupon sat down and made the phrase which is used in these telegrams. Everything that related to Greenbackers aside from the purchase of the Sentinel was to be known as the "Smith arrangement;" the term "Smith," applies to no person whatever; the proposal as to purchasing the Sentinel was to be known as "Brown;" the word "certain," meant $5,000, and "early" meant $10,000. This was the extent of the cipher; the following telegram meant that active members of the Greenback party had agreed to assist in arresting the greenback movement; $5,000 would be necessary to meet their expenses in addition to the $10,000 promised by McCormick for general campaign purposes, on the same date probably there was a telegram from Foster, requesting witness to leave Washington for New York, and on the 1st of October he received the following dispatch from Indianapolis.

"Dispatched you Friday to go to New York at once. Have no answer. It is of the utmost importance that you should go to-night. Letters and particulars await you there. It is essential to success. J. W. FOSTER."

To this the following reply was sent:

"WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.

"To J. W. Foster, Indianapolis:

"Your telegrams all answered. Early will positively leave New York next Tuesday. By that time I hope to complete arrangements here, as it is bad done now. JAMES N. TYNER."

This referred to the $10,000 promised by the National Committee and to the fact that witness hoped to be able to obtain the $5,000, one half of which he had already obtained for the special purpose mentioned. The $10,000 was to go to the Indiana Central Committee and the $5,000 to Foster, who was not a member of the committee.

Q.—That was the special arrangement with Mr. McMahon; Mr. Foster was a sort of a side committee to get around the greenback leaders?

Answer—Those who might be induced to assist the Republican party. The next telegram was dated Indianapolis, Oct. 2, to Jas. N. Tyner, and read as follows: "Send certain direct to me; telegram when sent. J. W. Foster." "To be forwarded if absent; charge to Republican Committee."

On the same date a second telegram was received from Foster as follows: "The arrangement as to Smith is in satisfactory progress; that is now secured; all our friends agree it would be highly desirable to do what Brown asked in his visit to New York to be controlled by us. Only require early, and we personally pledge certain if certain can be provided through you or others at once. This, you understand, is in addition to all previous promises; we all feel sure of its success."

The interpretation of this, witness testified, was that the arrangement to secure the Greenbackers was in satisfactory progress; that being secured, all Foster's friends agreed it would be highly desirable to purchase the Indianapolis Sentinel, to be controlled by the Republicans. It would only require $10,000, and they pledged themselves to raise $5,000 in Indiana, if $5,000 more were provided by outsiders. This latter sum was to be in addition to the $10,000 promised by the National Committee. To this the witness forwarded the following reply from Washington on the same date;

"Your last telegram confuses me. Is the arrangement with Smith still unsettled? If so, is it contemplated to submit Brown's proposition which he made in New York? That proposition would not meet with favor here, but to carry out Smith's arrangement all that was promised would be done. I cannot now assure you all the certain as only one half was obtained, but I will telegraph you from Philadelphia in the morning; I go there this evening in answer to telegrams received."

Mr. Springer—If Brown was an arrangement simply, how could he have visited New York?"

Answer—"The term Brown was applied to everything in connection with the purchase of the Indianapolis Sentinel." The witness having explained the telegram fully, the reply of Col. Foster to the same date was read.

"It is not intended to submit Brown's proposition for the arrangement with Smith. It is additional and independent, and of less importance. Have early mailed for afternoon mail to New York, and certain sent to-morrow evening to secure Smith arrangement."

The witness explained the dispatch to the Committee, and stated that he sent the following from the Pennsylvania depot the same evening:

"Messenger leaves here to-night with half of certain; I go to New York to-night; will telegraph to-morrow from Postoffice building in New City."

Witness telegraphed to Potter next day:

"All right; go ahead." The $2,500 the other half of early for the special purposes, had been sent. In this connection witness asked leave to state that the Indianapolis *Sentinel* was not purchased and nothing was ever said about it. This concluded the Tyner-Foster dispatches. After the October election the witness had a conversation with Zach Chandler as to the prospects of carrying Indiana for the Republicans in November. Witness was to go to Indiana and see what could be done. If there was any chance of success he was to telegraph Chandler, who would furnish him with funds to the extent of $10,000. Before he left, witness said to Secretary Chandler: "If we telegraph about money, we had better use a phrase." It was decided that if $5,000 were needed, witness should telegraph for one Indian appointment, if $10,000, two Indian appointments, and Chandler would honor his drafts for those sums. Witness proceeded to Indianapolis, and on the 3d of November telegraphed to Chandler:

"If you can appoint two Indian Agents please appoint one. Please answer promptly as I must leave here to-morrow evening."

Chandler replied from the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York:

"The appointments will be made

"ZACH CHANDLER."

When witness received this he went to the members of the State Committee and informed them that they were at liberty to draw on Chandler. It was finally decided to have the money deposited in New York to the credit of an Indianapolis bank, and witness sent the following to Chandler:

"Put the sum representing two appointments to the credit of the Central Bank, Indianapolis, with Hanover National Bank, to-day; telegraph to me when done. The bank requires this."

Sec. Chandler's answer to this was: "It will be done to-day without fail, as requested."

These were all the telegrams that passed between Chandler and witness.

W. E. Chandler was then recalled, and stated that he wrote and signed one of the two telegrams sent by Zach Chandler, in which the Indian agents were mentioned. He remembers the great admiration with which he regarded that clever cipher. (Laughter.) Still the cipher was made, and he had to use it. To the question whether the dispatches had no reference to any appointment, he said, "anyone who knows Zach Chandler knows that he never made an appointment in his department, either for money or consideration of any kind, and I did not think any gentleman would suggest it."

The Committee adjourned until to-morrow, when, in all probability, Whitelaw Reid will be examined.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Whitelaw Reid, of the New York Tribune, was before the Potter Committee to-day. He received a package of cipher dispatches from William E. Chandler and one from Hiscock, of the Committee. He produced two scrap books with the remark, "Here are two volumes of dispatches received by me." [Laughter.] The first volume contains copies of the Florida dispatches, with an appendix of miscellaneous. Volume No. 2 embodies telegrams referring to South Carolina and Oregon before the telegrams were deciphered. Reid said that he published editorials on the subject with a view to inducing some one to come forward with a key to the cipher, but that failing in this, the copies were attacked seriously. Hazard and Groesbeck did the entire work of translation. Prof. Holden aided in some immaterial way.

Hiscock inquired if there had ever been any complaint from the parties to whom the telegrams were attributed.

Reid replied that with the exception of Marble there had been no direct complaints, and in that case Marble

News of the Week.

THE CAPITAL.

At Washington Jan. 29, the President nominated Issac P. Christiancy, of Michigan Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Peru, and Wm. W. Dudley Marshal of the District of Indiana.

At Washington Jan. 30, the Senate Finance Committee reconsidered the action of a few days ago reducing the duty on licorice, and virtually decided not to make any change.

An exhibit shows Redemption of debt during January, $2,751,380; cash in Treasury, $282,450,695; United States notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit, $40,940,000; United States notes held for redemption of fractional currency, $8,569,823; called bonds not matured, for which four per cent. bonds have been issued, $157,161,950.

A dispatch says the Democratic Senators have held one slimly attended caucus to consider and determine party action upon Sen. Edmunds' amendment to the joint resolution which passed the House proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the payment of claims for property destroyed in the South during the war. There was no definite action taken upon the question, but the discussion showed that a majority of those present were opposed to the amendment. Owing to the small number present, it was thought best not to take action upon the question, and it was postponed until this week when another caucus will be held.

A dispatch says Gen. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers, in a letter to the Secretary of War respecting the plan of the national survey proposed by the National Academy of Sciences, reviews the letter of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, which suggested that there was some misapprehension on the General's part as to the cost of the completed survey work, which, adopting the report of Gen Comstock, had been taken by Gen. Humphreys for a square mile on which both the topographical and triangulation work had been executed at $84 per square mile. This result followed from the official reports of the coast survey for five years between 1865 and 1869, but a note was attached to it stating that the amount was so large that it suggested the possibility of an error in the data, or that some of the triangulation was done with areas previously reported. The superintendent stated in effect that the apparent cost of the coast survey work for that period had increased by a diversion of the coast survey force from its ordinary duties. Gen. Comstock had according made an estimate for 14 years, between 1858 and 1872, the longest period, it is believed, for which the necessary coast survey data had been published, and had pointed out that any one would be gravely in error who took the results mentioned by the Superintendent of the Coast Survey in his letters as giving a correct idea of the total cost per square mile of the published coast survey maps. Gen. Humphreys, after a long review of the subject concludes by saying that after a careful reading of the Superintendent's letter he has been unable to find any evidence of such misapprehension, and adds that the results obtained differ very widely from the $8 00 per square mile for triangulation and $8 per square mile for topographical, which a careless reader might derive from the letter of the Superintendent. They give no reason for supposing that a national survey can be executed at a cost of less than that stated in my letter on that subject of October 25, 1875, namely: $19,200,000 for a rough topographical survey, based on the astronomical determinations of $82,400 000 for a rough topographical survey, based on the triangulation of $35,000,000 for a rough cadastral survey, for the area considered being that only of the States admitted before 1860, excluding California, Texas and Oregon.

The officers of the Interior and Treasury Departments were before the House Appropriation Committee Monday urging an appropriation to meet deficiencies The Commissioner of Internal Revenue advocated the appropriation of collecting internal revenue, and also urged that $75,000 be embodied in the deficiency appropriation bill to the credit of his Department.

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections has been called for Tuesday morning, when a formal vote will be taken on the Corbin-Butler case. The Republican members, it is understood, will unite in a majority report prepared by Sen. Cameron, of Wisconsin, asserting that Corbin is entitled to the seat in the Senate now occupied by Gen. Butler, and the Democratic members will sign Sen. Hill's minority report, taking the ground that Butler was legally elected, and that he having been admitted to the seat, the matter is now *res adjudicata*.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued another call for $10,000,000 each of registered and coupon 5 20 bonds.

FIRE.

At Chicago Jan. 30, the police have captured a gang of counterfeiters and forgers, who during the past two years have, by counterfeiting letter-heads and signatures, obtained great numbers of passes from railroad corporations and sold them to scalpers. The plan pursued was to apply in due form, and upon a letter-head of one Railroad Company, under the signature of the General Superintendent or manager to another road for a pass, which application being always readily honored, a fine business was worked up by the forgers. The fraud was first discovered by Sam. L. Whipple, Secretary of General Manager McMullin, of the Chicago & Alton railroad, who gave information that led to their arrest.

A Topeka Kans. dispatch of Jan 31 says that the anti-Ingalls caucus met in the Legislature after canvassing all night and to 11 o'clock Friday, centered on Chief Justice Horton, on the first ballot to-day. Ingolls received 83 votes, Horton, 79. Goodwin (Democrat) 2, Mitchell (Greenbacker) 1. Ingolls was declared elected.

At San Francisco Cal., Feb. 2, the Democrats held a mass meeting at Union Hall to endorse the passage of the anti-Chinese bill by the House of Congress. The Kearneyites packed the meeting, hooted the speaker, cheered for Kearney and the workingmen's party, and created so much confusion that a strong force of police was sent to the hall. After several arrests were made of the parties disturbing the meeting, the Kearneyites must all left the hall and held a meeting in the street, and the regular order of exercises in the hall were carried out without further interruption of any consequence.

At Yankton D. T., Feb. 4, the twenty-first day of the Legislative session has been reached, and no very important measures have yet been passed. A bill was introduced Tuesday granting suffrage to the women of the Territory, a hard fought battle has been waged over a temperance bill, but it has been defeated, and to-morrow a high license bill will be introduced. A memorial has been adopted asking Congress to divide Dakota into two territories, and there is a strong sentiment against the admission of the whole of Dakota as a State, as provided in a bill now pending in Congress.

SOUTH.

A dispatch says the lock-out at the Ashland, Ky., Iron Works and furnace mines mines still continues. A large body of miners are on guard at the iron works to prevent those who wish to work from doing so. Over one thousand employes are thus thrown out of work, causing great distress among them, many of their families being in need of the necessaries of life, husbands and fathers having been out of work through the last strike, which existed during the past six months.

At Alexandria Va., Jan. 28, in the Arlington suit Judge Hughes gave a decision granting instructions asked for by the plaintiff, and refusing the instructions on the same points of law prayed for by the defendants. He holds that the Supreme Court had, in the two contested cases, settled the principle that the owners of the land subjected to direct taxation by Congress, under the act of 1862 and 1863, had a right to pay tax at any time before a tax sale, through a friend or agent as well as in person; and that a tender of a payment, or a practice of the Commissioners refusing a payment of tax made by a friend or agent prevented the forfeiture and tax sale made after such tender, or after the adoption of such practice.

A dispatch says Capt. Samuel Allen, the revenue officer, who has been raiding the moonshiners in Kentucky, has brought in Starrel Stillwell and John Howlett, who were captured in Larue County. With them were captured 18 tubs of beer. It is thought that the backbone of moonshining in the Counties of Larue, Taylor and Green is broken.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

At London Jan. 29, the High Court of Justice dismissed the motion to arrest the United States frigate "Constitution" and her cargo.

Minister Welsh, in his letter of instructions to the solicitors for the "Constitution," said: "The 'Constitution' is national ship, and her cargo was in charge of the United States Government for public purposes. Under the circumstances I cannot recognize that the High Court of Justice has any jurisdiction." The counsel for the Crown also opposed the motion, and said the granting of the application might even result in a war between Great Britain and the United States. Judge Phillimore said that in no case had such an application as this been granted, and there was no circumstance in the case to take it out of the ordinary category.

The "Constitution," sailed Thursday homeward bound. The total salvages claimed is £4,200, of which £1,330 has been paid.

At Edinburgh Feb. 1, the Directors of the City of Glasgow Bank—Root, Sumner, Stronach and Lewis Potter—were convicted of fraud, theft and embezzlement and were sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. Five other directors convicted of uttering false abstract balance sheets were sentenced to eight months imprisonment. The light sentences caused some surprise. Justice Moncrieff in passing sentence said he considered the circumstances; that the prisoners had not falsified the accounts for their own personal benefits, but in the mistaken idea that it was for the public good.

It is said the British Consuls in the United States inform the Privy Council that pleuropneumonia exists among cattle in a mild type in various parts of the country, but is not infectious. The cattle by the steamer "State of Alabama," bought in the same market and at the same time as those by the steamer "Ontario," were subjected to a rigid examination and found healthy. They were shipped to London for to-day market. The agricultural interest is endeavoring to induce the Privy Council to schedule the United States as an infected country.

Germany.

At Berlin Jan. 28, the Commission to deliberate upon protective measures against the plague, resolved to ask the Government to send a commissioner to Russia, and recommends the same measures as the Vienna conference recommended against the importation of Russian goods. Herr Finkelaburg told the commission that, according to official data, the plague has not spread beyond the originally infected districts. Moreover, the Russian authorities have commenced to enclose those localities by a double cordon of military. The Federal Council met to discuss measures against the plague. There is no truth in the statement that Russia has issued a diplomatic note denying the dangerous nature of the epidemic.

Russia.

A dispatch says the occupation by the Roumanians of the position near Silistria, which they claim as belonging to Dobrudja, is a very serious affair. The Roumanians, by an overwhelming display of force, compelled the Russians to abandon the Arab Tabia fortress, on the outskirts of Selistrue. The Roumanian Government, Saturday, received an intimation simultaneously from St. Petersburgh and from Gen. Todleben to withdraw immediately, but it formally refused, and a collision is probable.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 3.—An official messenger says the Governor General of Moscow contradicts the reports of the appearance of the plague in a Village near that City.

France.

A dispatch says Prest. MacMahon has resigned. The election of Grevy to the Presidency appears certain, the Left being in accord on this point.

The Republique Francaise, Gambetta's organ, says: "There is no possible doubt about the issue of the pending struggle; the only matter admitting of a difference of opinion is whether the state of the crisis shall continue or not. Personal power may be definitely buried from this day and moment. If this is possible, it should be done."

Another dispatch says President MacMahon's letter of resignation says: "Being in disagreement with the Ministry, and being hopeless of forming another Cabinet, and unwilling to assist measures which he regards contrary to good army organization, he withdraws from power." At a meeting of the Bureau of the Left, Gambetta proposed Grevy for President. It was unanimously approved. MacMahon asked the ministers to countersign his letter of resignation, but they refused, declaring the letter a merely personal act.

It is said that the present Minister will resign and a new Parliamentary Cabinet be constituted. It is reported that Gambetta will take the Premiership and Foreign Portfolio. The concourse of the general public at Versailles is not very great. The excitement does not compare with that of May 24, 1873, when Thiers resigned. No disturbance anywhere.

At Paris at Tuesday's council Grevy, Minister of War, submitted his list to the President. Gen. Grevy's decree dealt with the nine Generals. Of these four are to be transferred, and five, Bourbaki, DeLantigue, Bataille, Dutarat and Montandan, are definitely relieved. Marshal MacMahon declared that he could not sign this decree. "I cannot," he said, "sign a decree superseding the brave Generals, my own friends and companions, whose legal terms of command only expires in five or six months; there is no danger in my refusal; I cannot consent to stay at such a cost; I blush at the thought; I assure you, on my honor, I will not do it; political categories must not be created in the army; I would prefer to resign; my children would not forgive me for such an act; I cannot, where the army is concerned for which I am responsible before the nation, obey the injunctions of newspapers like these," and the Marshal showed two Republican newspapers which for some days back have been publishing lists of the officers classed in the political categories. The Ministers said nothing, for after hearing this it was difficult to form an immediate resolution. The council accordingly adjourned.

The Ministers congratulated President Grevy this evening, on his election, and collectively tendered their resignations. M. Grevy expressed the hope that they would continue in office at least provisionally. The Cabinet will meet to-morrow to consider the situation. Marshal MacMahon this evening visited and congratulated M. Grevy. The interview was most courteous.

Immense and peaceful crowds are assembled on the Boulevards awaiting news. The Marquis D'Harcourt, French Ambassador at London, who is a relative of Marshal MacMahon, has resigned.

A later dispatch says the following is the text of President MacMahon's letter announcing his resignation, "At the opening of this session of the chambers, the ministry presented to you a program, which, while affording satisfaction to the public opinion, appeared to the cabinet to be such as might be voted on without danger to the security or good administration of the country. Putting aside all possible views, I had given the program my approbation, for I was sacrificing no principle to which my conscience commanded me to remain faithful. To-day the ministry, thinking to respond to the opinion of the majority in two chambers, proposes to me in regard to the high military commands some general measures which I consider contrary to the interests of the army, and consequently to those of the country. I cannot subscribe to them; the Ministry have taken from the majority, and would impose upon me the same conditions. I consider myself, therefore, bound to shorten the duration of the mandate which the National Assembly confided to me, and I therefore tender my resignation. In quitting the power I have the consolation of thinking that during the 53 years I devoted to the services of my country, either as a soldier or a citizen, I have never been guided by sentiments other than honor and duty and absolute devotion to my country. I request you to communicate my decision to the Chambers." MACMAHON,

Duke of Magenta.

At Versailles Jan. 31, Gambetta was been elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 314 votes out of 435. It is still uncertain whether Dufavre, President of the Council, will retain his office. A message from Pres. Grevy will be communicated to the Chambers probably Thursday next.

A dispatch says Pres. Grevy has entrusted Waddington with the task of forming a new Cabinet. The Liberals state that Dufaure, in a letter in which he informed Grevy of his resolution to retire, pointed to his advanced age and political views, and urged that his withdrawal would facilitate a solution of numerous pending questions.

At London Feb. 3, a Paris correspondent says the fact that Waddington has been selected as Premier is clear proof that the recent reassuring foreign policy will be continued. He further says it is affirmed that only three ministers will retire and they will be replaced by members of the pure Left. Many names are mentioned for these places, including those of Le Pere, Le Royer and Ferry.

At Paris Feb. 3, it was expected that Cabinet, would be reconstructed with only two or three new members. Feissearre de Bert will certainly retire.

The Temps says: "Besides Waddington, the following Ministers will remain in office: de Marcere, Freycinet, and Leonsay, Gen. Gresley and Admiral Pothnau."

Duc D'Aumale, Commander of the Seventh Army Corps, is to be placed on half pay. Gen. Giesley, present Minister of War, is to succeed Duc D'Aumale, and Gen. Farre is to be Minister of War. The opinion gains ground that the Chambers will speedily abandon Versailles for Paris.

THE CIPHER DISPATCHES.

The Way Dudley Field was Surprised.

A Chapter of the History of the Electoral Count—Mr. Burchard's Reminiscence.

Correspondence Chicago Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Mr. Burchard, of Illinois, who was a member of the Committee on "Powers and Privileges" in the last Congress, gives an interesting reminiscence of how that Committee came to give up investigating the cipher dispatches. He says that Mr. Field came over here from New York, as it was understood, to act as special counsel for Mr. Tilden. No one controverted that theory then, nor has since. Immediately upon Mr. Field being sworn in he was made a member of Proctor Knott's Investigating Committee. The first morning after the session that Field had been appointed, Mr. Burchard said there was the greatest sort of interest among the members to see what Field was going to do. He came in with a long list of witnesses which he said he wanted summoned at once. This was refused unless Mr. Field would state what he wished to prove by them. Mr. Field at first refused, saying that he did not propose to state in advance what he intended to prove. The Committee asked him what was his objection, and he said that he did not wish the public to be informed in advance of what he was going to show. A compromise was finally agreed upon providing that Field should make his statement about the case to the Committee in executive session. This he did, and, in substance he said that he proposed to show that the votes of Louisiana, South Carolina and Florida had been tampered with and that money had been used to secure the declarations made by the retiring boards.

It was at this time that the Senate Committee of which Morton was Chairman had possession of the cipher dispatches that they had taken away from the Western Union Telegraph Company. Judge Field was one of the House Committee appointed to go over and consult with Morton upon the subject of the cipher dispatches. In that consultation it is very likely that Mr. Morton was entirely frank. Mr. Field became then and there silent upon the subject, the lawyers upon the Senate and House Committees entered into a compact to say nothing more about the cipher dispatches. It was agreed to let the whole matter drop. Judge Field and were then convinced that an equal amount of fraud would be brought out to smirch each other.

A political armistice was agreed upon in which Mr. Morton, having all the material in his possession, dictated the absolute terms thereof. He destroyed the Republican dispatches, and had the Administration been wise enough to have suppressed William R. Chandler by giving him a diplomatic appointment there probably would not have been anything more heard about the cipher dispatches after the Morton-Field compact was made.

Angell's Visit to Lisbon.

From a correspondence from Lisbon to the *Jornal de Commercio*, of Rio de Janeiro (December 23, 1878), we quote the following:

"A Mr. Charles Angell, having defrauded an American Company to the extent of $120,000, shaved himself clean of his old beard, put on blue glasses, assumed the name of John Seymour and started peacefully on his travels through Europe, giving himself out as a retired English merchant. From London and Paris he sailed to Rio de Janeiro, but for some reason or other he found the place rather too feverish or too hot for him. Perhaps he heard there of our deliciously soft, cool weather, and here he came.

"Now the American Company was not disposed to be robbed by its ex-Treasurer in so cool a manner. It therefore sent everywhere photographs of the 'man wanted,' and announced a reward of £1,000 in cash and 10 per cent. of all moneys found in Angell's possession, should he be captured. A clever offer, indeed, to insure 80,000 moneyhounds after such a fellow.

"The servants of all our hotels were acquainted with the offer, and in every transient guest they tried to discover the lost *angel*. At last one of them, belonging to the Hotel Central, found him at the very rooms just previously occupied by Gen. Grant. In spite of all his changes the retired Englishman looked so much like the subject of the photograph that the man-waiter thought it wise to communicate with the United States Minister, who, in his turn, asked the help of the Foreign Minister, who saw the Minister of Justice, who ordered the Chief of Police to arrest the supposed English merchant.

"Mr. John Seymour exhibited a passport signed by Lord Salisbury, but as the chief insisted on his declaring his true nationality, Mr. Seymour, threatened with an inquiry by telegraph with the Foreign Office in London gave himself up as the man wanted. The police then searched his trunks, and in them were found $80,000 in gold and bank papers. What a cenobite! In six months he managed to spend $40,000! How much he must have suffered!

"The beautiful part of the affair is that now everybody claims the reward. The man-waiter, the American Minister, the American Consul, the Chief of Police and I do not know who else. Seymour says that should the Chief of Police accept any reward because he did his duty the Government must immediately dismiss him. And as the Minister of the United States will not blush to appear in litigation with a man-servant, the last must eventually feel very happy with this hunt that will clear him $12,000 net.

"But now a Bohemian of the press suggests that, after all, Seymour himself is entitled to the reward, for he was the principal witness against Charles Angell—the one who really denounced him."

A Slight Mistake.

In Paris the other day a young lady went into one of the great drapery houses to shop with her maid. They keep watchers there; and one of these, making sure he had seen something, presently tapped the young lady on the shoulder and asked her to follow him into the searching-room. "You have just put a pair of new gloves in your pocket, Madamoiselle; don't deny it." "I know I have," said the young lady quietly: "and if you will be just look inside of them you will see that, as they were bought at another house, they would hardly have been stolen from this." "That was so," as our cousins say. The watcher had simply made a mistake; and he and the whole gang of searchers began to grovel in excuses. "Now," said the lady, turning to her maid, "go to the nearest Commissary of Police and tell him that the daughter of Prince Orloff requires his protection." It was the very awkwardest of blunders: her father was the Russian Ambassador. The contrite drapery company is offering thousands to hush it up.

CONKLING DEFEATED.

Gen. Merritt Confirmed by a Most Decided Vote—Conkling Struggles Obstinately, but Unavailingly.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The consideration of the nominations of Edwin A. Merritt, to be Collector of Customs, and Silas W. Burt, to be Naval Officer for the port of New York, was resumed by the Senate in Executive Session today, at 1 P. M.

Senator Bayard, as soon as the doors were closed, submitted a motion that they be reopened, and that all proceedings be conducted in public.

Senator Edmonds objected to the present consideration of this motion, and it therefore went over under the rules.

Sen. Bayard took the floor and made a speech of considerable length and much earnestness in favor of confirming the nominations. He referred in detail to the testimony taken by the investigating committee, of which he was a member some years ago, showing, as he alleged, gross maladministration of the New York Custom House under Collector Murphy, and he claimed that it was then, and had been since, a mere political machine and a source of corruption. He, therefore, heartily favored the President's declaration of his intention to reform its administration by placing it on business principles, and to this end would vote for the removal of Arthur and Cornell, and the confirmation of the pending nominations, as a step in the direction of a much needed reform.

Sen. Edmunds strongly opposed the removal of Gen. Arthur, the pending question being on Gen. Merritt's renomination only, and insisted that no sufficient cause had been shown to justify it. In the course of his remarks he combatted the idea that in order to properly admister the affairs of the Custom House, it was necessary that the Collector should be a personal friend of the President or of the Secretary of the Treasury. It was the duty of the officer to obey the law, and unless corruption or inefficiency were proven he should be retained in office, regardless of mere personal feelings or party preferences.

Sen. Voorhees opposed the confirmation of Gen. Merritt on the ground that although there were abuses to be corrected he was not satisfied that Merritt was a fit man to be entrusted with their correction.

Sen. Kernan took similar grounds. The New York Custom House had been run as a political machine, but in his opinion there would be no improvement effected by placing it under the control of Merritt, who was a mere politician, with nothing in his record to commend him for the appointment. While, therefore, he (Kernan) was not willing to vote for Merritt, he was not willing, on the other hand, to indorse Arthur, consequently he should decline to vote at all.

Sen. Howe then made a speech of half an hour's duration, in which he took up and compared the charges and replies, and arrived at the conclusion that there was no good cause shown for the proposed removals.

Senator Cockrell, reviewing the controversy, said it appeared that very grave charges had been made against Gen. Arthur, and that in return very serious allegations had been made against Sec. Sherman, the truth of some of which the Secretary seemed to admit. He therefore thought the only proper way to deal with the subject would be to recommit the nomination to the Committee on Commerce, with power to send for persons and papers, and make a thorough investigation of the Custom House affairs, etc., under Gen. Merritt's administration. He therefore submitted a motion to that effect.

Senator Morgan, after making a speech of much the same purport as Senator Howe, moved to indefinitely postpone the pending nomination on the ground that this would indicate that the Senate did not consider Merritt a proper man for the place, and would open the way for the President to send in another name. The presiding officer, Mitchell, occupying the chair temporarily, ruled that this motion was out of order, as it involved final action, and under the rules of the Senate, although a postponement to a fixed date was permissible, final action on the question of the nomination must always be: "Does the Senate advise and consent to its confirmation?"

A long discussion ensued on the parliamentary question thus raised, and after six or eight Senators had spoken, nearly all of them supporting the decision of the Chair, Sen. Morgan withdrew his motion.

The question then recurred on Sen. Cockrell's motion to recommit, and Sen. Conkling took the floor to close the debate. He sent to the Clerk's desk Gen. Arthur's letter to him of the 1st inst., in reply to Sec. Sherman's last communication, and after it had been read to the Senate, Sen. Conkling proceeded to make an hour's speech, earnestly opposing the confirmation, and going over the whole ground of the charges against Arthur and Cornell to show that they had been thoroughly refuted, in referring to the complaint of the President and Sec. Sherman that the New York Custom House had been used as a political machine for the benefit of personal and political friends of the persons who controlled the appointments, he read several letters from Sec. Sherman and Assistant Sec. McCormick, addressed to Collector Arthur, in which they requested appointments for their personal or political friends. Among them was one from Sec. Sherman to Collector Arthur, earnestly recommending the son of Justice Bradley for an appointment, and at the close, that he (Sherman) "hoped, for manifest reasons, that it would be considered favorably."

Sen. Conkling also read to the Senate a letter written to Collector Arthur by the President, or by the President's direction, recommending for appointment as Deputy Collector a gentleman, Mr. John O. Howard, who had written Pres. Hayes' biography. Gen. Arthur declined to comply with the President's request on the ground that he did not think it advisable or proper to confer such an important appointment upon any man who had not come up through the lower grades of service, and showed a fitness for the position. This day he thus declined to violate the President's civil service principles was, said Sen. Conkling, a sorry day for Gen. Arthur, for the President's opposition seemed to date from this refusal. In the course of his further remarks, Sen. Conkling referred to the President's alleged purpose to make new nominations to displace Arthur and Cornell in the event of the Senate rejecting those now before it. He argued that it is the constitutional prerogative of the Senate to say whether or not the officers shall be removed, and if the President undertook to execute the threat attributed to him he might find himself standing on very slippery ground. Sen. Conkling, in conclusion, intimated that he would go into the matter at more length were the session an open one, and if the hour were not so late, but under the circumstances he would content himself with asking for the Senate's decision.

A vote was then taken on the motion for the recommittal, and it was lost by seven or eight majority. The roll being next called on the question of confirming the nominations of Gen. Merritt, the vote resulted: yes, 33; nays, 24, as follows:

YEAS—Sens. Bailey, Bayard, Back, Burnside, Cameron, (Wis.) Coke, Conover, Davis, (W. Va.) Dawes, Dennis, Ferry, Gordon, Grover, Harris, Hereford, Hill, Hoar, Johnston, Kirkwood, McGreery, McMillan, Matthews, Morgan, Merrill, Oglesby, Randolph, Ransom, Saulsbury, Saunders, Shields, Whyte, Windom and Withers—33.

NAYS—Senators Allison, Anthony, Blain, Booth, Bruce, Chaffee, Cockrell, Conkling, Davis, (Ill.), Eaton, Garland, Hamlin, Howe, Jones, (Nev.) Kellogg, McDonald, Mitchell, Paddock, Patterson Rollins, Sargent, Spencer, Teller, Voorhees—24.

Senators Butler, Christiancy, Lamar, Merriman, Plumb, Thurman and Wallace, who would have voted yes, were paired with Barnum, Edmunds, McPherson, Ingalls, Sharon, Dorsey and Cameron (Pa.), who would have voted nay.

Kernan, Jones, (Fla.) Maxey, Wadleigh, though present and not paired, did not vote, and Eustis, making the seventy-six full number of the Senate, was absent without a pair.

The nomination of Silas W. Burt, to be Naval Officer, was then disposed of by confirmation without debate.

An analysis of the vote and pairs on Gen. Merrill's nomination, shows that 27 Democrats and 13 Republicans favored the confirmation, and 23 Republicans and seven Democrats were opposed to it. One Independent, Sen. Davis (Ill.), voted against the confirmation. Four Democrats, who were present, refrained from voting, and one Democrat was absent without a pair.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Forty-Fifth Congress---Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.

Sen. VOORHEES took the oath of office to day under the recent election to fill the unexpired term of the late Sen. Morton.

Sen. McCREERY introduced a bill to transfer the office of Indian Affairs from the Interior to the War Department. Laid on the table to be called up hereafter by Sen. McCreery, who gave notice that he desired to submit some remarks.

Sen. MATTHEWS introduced a joint resolution providing for a commercial treaty with Mexico. Referred

Sen. TELLER presented a petition of the colored people of Louisiana, complaining that they are not protected either in life or property; that at the recent election they were met by armed white men known as the Democratic Club; that they were shot and not allowed to hold meetings. They therefore invoke the protection of the Federal Government. Referred to a Select Committee, of which Teller is Chairman.

Sen. HARRIS, from the Select Committee on Epidemic Diseases, reported a bill to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States, and to establish a Bureau of Public Health. — Ordered printed and recommitted.

Sen. MCRRILL gave notice that as soon as he could obtain the floor he would call up a bill to provide for the taking of tenth and subsequent census.

The Senate then, on motion of Conkling, went into executive session.

HOUSE.

Under the call of States, Mr. CUTLER introduced a bill appropriating $100,000,000 for the payment of the arrearages of pensions.

In the House the bill to make gold and silver interchangable was defeated—yeas 101, nays 136.

In the House, a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill for the issue of $40,000,000 tour per cent. bonds for the payment of pension arrearages was defeated. Yeas, 140; nays, 81; not the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

Mr. BURCHARD moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill authorizing the issue of four per cent. bonds to the amount of $40,000,000, the proceeds of the sale of which shall be applied to the payment of arrears of pensions.

The SPEAKER put the question on a suspension of the rules, and intimated that on the *viva voce* vote there appeared to be a necessary two-thirds majority, the ayes coming in the greatest volume from the Republican side of the House, and the nays from the Democratic side, whereupon the yeas and nays were ordered, and the call was responded to from the Republican side. The vote was taken, and resulted in—yeas, 140; nays, 81. So the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was defeated, there being less than two thirds in the affirmative.

The House then commenced a memorial service in respect to the late Terence J. Quinn, Representative from the State of New York. Resolutions appropriate to the occasion were offered by Mr. Lockwood and unanimously adopted; and eulogies on the life and character of the deceased were pronounced by Messrs. Lockwood Mayham, Bailey, Covert, Townsend (N. Y.) Jones (O.), Caldwell (Tenn.) and Everett, and then the House adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.

Sen. MANEY, from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, reported an amendment to the Post Office appropriation bill, establishing a steamship line between New York and Rio Janeiro via Norfolk, and another between New Orleans and Rio Janeiro via Galveston, allowing a subsidy of $150,000 per annum to each line. Referred.

Sen. CAMERON, of Wis., from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, submitted a majority report signed by Republican members declaring David Corbin duly elected Senator from South Caroline, and is fitted to take his seat.

Sen. HILL, from the same Committee submitted a report signed by the Democratic members in favor of the incumbent, M. C. Butler. Both reports were ordered printed and placed on the calendar.

Sen. MATTHEWS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported back a number of petitions in regard to the claims of citizens of the United States against Nicaragua, with a resolution providing for a Commission of five Senators, to sit during recess and inquire into the claims for indemnity for the lives of relatives, imprisonment, etc., and to what extent Nicaragua should make compensation. Placed on the calendar.

Sen. MORRILL, from the Committee on Finance, reported, with an amendment, the House bill to authorize the issue of certificates of deposit in aid of refunding the public debt. Placed on the calendar.

Sen. EDMUNDS gave notice that at the first opportunity he would call up a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution prohibiting the payment of the claims of disloyal persons for property injured or destroyed in the late war.

Sen. WINDOM gave notice that on Friday next he would call up his resolutions in regard to the migration of colored people and submit some remarks.

Rev. T. DeWitt.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—The Brooklyn Presbytery met this afternoon for the purpose of calling Rev. DeWitt Talmage, Pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, to account for wandering from the prescribed lines of Presbyterianism, and thereby bringing religion into contempt. There was a large attendance, and the friends of Talmage rallied around him in force.

Rev. Dr. Crosby said he had consulted with three members of the New York Presbytery in regard to offering resolutions and they had exhorted him to do so. He therefore offered the following:

WHEREAS, Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage, D. D., is charged by common fame, with falsehood and deceit, and with using improper methods in preaching, which tend to bring religion into contemp, and

WHEREAS, It is the duty of the Presbytery to protect the good name of its members when they are unjustly assailed, and to subject those who offend to proper discipline; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of three ministers and two elders, be appointed to investigate the nature and extent of the common fame referred to in the preamble, and report to the presbytery what, if any, further action shall be taken.

There was considerable discussion as to whether the pastor of the tabernacle had been guilty of the charges, and whether it was worth while to enter an investigation. Rev. Dr. Cuyler offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of four members of the presbytery, two ministers and two elders, be appointed to visit the Tabernacle Presbyterian church, and make careful inquiries in regard to all matters of common report in reference to the late movement to remove the debt upon said church, and also that the committee of inquiry be enjoined to conduct their interview with the utmost frankness and brotherly kindness, and to report to the presbytery at an early day.

Rev. Dr. Talmage offered a resolution that they go into the investigation at once. His resolution was withdrawn. Dr. Cuyler's was voted down and Rev. Dr. Crosby's adopted. The moderator then appointed as a committee, Rev. Dr. Crosby, Rev. Dr. Wells and Rev. Mr. Dr. McClellan and Elders Babcock and McDougal.

What Puzzled Him.

"It's berry sing'lar," remarked Uncle Joe Johnson, as he laid down the morning paper and reflectively surveyed the toes of his list slippers as they reposed on the guard-bar of the cylinder stove. "It's berry sing'lar dat ef a man lives to be over 50, an' cumulates stamps, an' dies gen'ally admired an' 'spected, dat one-half ob his survivin' friends is almost sartin to prove in de courts dat he was of unsound mind, an' dat he wasn't fit, in his later years, to plan out a vy'ge for a mud-scow. But you'll fin' de papers full ob stories ob ole fellers who die about 100 years ole in de poor house, an' dey are a'ways sensenbul to de las'!"

The Markets.

General Produce

BUFFALO, Feb. 4.—Wheat firm and unchanged: sales of white at 92¾c. Corn—sales of new on track at 37c.

DETROIT, Feb. 4.—Breadstuffs—Flour dull and steady. Wheat firmer; extra, 95¼c: asked; No 1 white, 83¾c; seller February, 93¾c; seller March, 95¼c; seller April, 97¼c; seller May, 98¾c. Receipts, 38,623 bu; shipments, 9,838 bu.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 4.—Flour quiet. Wheat at 90@96c. Corn 32@34c. Oats at 24@28c. Whisky steady and in good demandat 102c. Provisions—Pork firm at $8 50. Lard quiet at $6 35. Bulk meats firm at $3 50@4 62½@4 87½. Bacon firm at $4 00@5 25@5 50.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 3.—Breadstuffs—Flour dull and easy; superfine, $2 25@2 75; extra, $3 00@3 50; Ohio and Indiana family, $4 75@5 50. Wheat weak; No. 2 red, 104¾@105¾c; amber, 105¾c; white, 106c asked. Corn dull and steady; yellow, 46c@48½c; mixed, 45¾c@46c. Oats weak; white western, 29c@33½c; mixed western, 28@29c.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 3.—Wheat—Prices advanced 2¢@2½c. At the noon board closed steady at 97c for No. 1 hard; 93¾c for No. 1; 86c for No. 2 and seller February; 87¾c for seller March; 88½c for seller April; 72c for No. 3; 64¾c for No. 4; 54½c for rejected; receipts, 46,000 bu; shipments, 14,100. Corn—Market firm at 36c for No. 2. Oats steady at 26c for No. 2. Rye firm at 48¾c for No. 1. Barley steady at 76c for No. 2.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 4.—Flour is unchanged. Wheat slow. No. 2 red, 98¾c cash; No 3 do, 88¾c. Corn higher at 30¾@30¾c cash. Oats scarce and firm at 22½c cash. Rye at 41¾@42¾c. Whisky steady at 101c. Pork higher; jobbing at $9 62½, delivered. Dry Salt Meats active and higher; shoulders, $3 25@3 37½; clear ribs, $4 50@4 62½; clear, $4 60@4 70, asked. Bacon—shoulders, 4¼c; clear rib sides, new, $4 75; hams, new, sugar-cured, 9½@10c. Lard refined, in tierces, $5 40. Butter—Market steady and in fair demand for choice; western packed unchanged at 18@20c; rolls at 15@17c. Petroleum firm; no refined offered; crude, "in bulk" at 7¾@8c. Coffee —Market is firm and quiet; Rio cargoes, unchanged at 17@18¾c. Whisky dull and unchanged at 108½c. Freights to Liverpool, per steamer, quiet; 6d; flour, 6d; corn, 2s6d; grain, 8d. Receipts—Flour, 3,268 bbls; wheat, 71,400 bu; corn, 176,000 bu; oats, 2,400 bu; rye, 750 bu. Shipments—Wheat, 35,700 bu; corn, 80,400 bu.

Live Stock Markets.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 3.—Hogs steady and firm; common, $2 90@3 40; light, $3 45@3 55; packing, $3 45@3 65; butchers', $3 50@3 80. Receipts, 1,618 head; shipments, 708 head.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 3.—Cattle—Receipts, 2,000 head; market active; good to prime, $5 50@6 00; medium, $4 75@5 25; common, $4 00@4 25.

Sheep—Market moderately active; receipts, 5,000 head; good, $5 2½; medium, $4 75@5 00; common, $4 ——.

Hogs—Market steady; receipts, 3,300 head; good, $6 00@6 25; medium, $5 75@6 00; common, $5 00.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—The Drovers' Journal of this afternoon has the following:

Hogs—The receipts to-day were —— head; shipments, —— head; market fairly active and a shade higher; choice heavy, $3 60@3 95; light, $3 50@3 80; mixed, $3 40@3 80.

Cattle—Receipts —— head; shipments —— head; market firm; shipping, $4 00@5 00; stockers, dull; butchers' steady; cows, $2 40@3 10; steers, $3 00@3 80.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, —— head; shipments, —— head; market firm at $3 35@4 00.

EAST LIBERTY, Feb. 3.—Cattle—Receipts since Friday have been 1,720 head through and 2,750 head local, for the week ending this day 3,468 head through and 886 head local, against 4,871 head through and 1,863 head local the week before. Supply very light this week, and very little doing except at retail and that is dull, so far the market is fair at last week's prices.

Hogs—Receipts 9,734 head; shipments head; total receipts for the week 21,300 head against 20,500 head the week before. Yorkers, $3 75@3 90; Philadelphias, $4 00@4 20.

Sheep—Receipts, 4,800 head; shipments, head; total receipts for the week 10,900 head, against 10,100 the week before, selling fair at last week's prices, $3 75@5 00.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—Beeves—Receipts for to-day were 4,800 head; market rather slow with a small fraction of an advance; poor to prime steers, $7 50@8 50; extra and fancy, $8 75@9 00; medium, $6 75@7 50; common, $6 00@6 50; bulls, $3 00@4 00; cows, $